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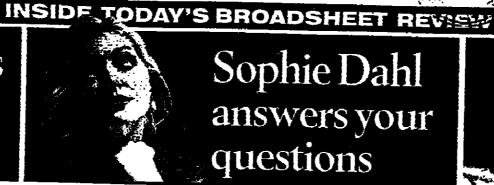
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THE INDEPENDENT

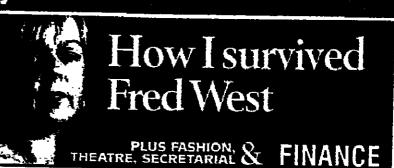
WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTMBER 1998



Confessions ofajunkie doctor



Sophie Dahl answers your questions



Britain is failing us, say blacks

AN ALARMING gulf has By Ian Burrell emerged between black and AND Paul Waugi white people in their perceptions of multi-cultural Britain.

A survey published today reveals that while whites are increasingly ready to embrace a multi-ethnic society, and believe that old prejudices are disappearing four out of five young blacks feel that race relations are getting worse.

The report, by the University of Warwick's centre for the report, Professor Muhamresearch in ethnic relations, shows that black people are three times more likely than

AND PAUL WAUGH

whites to believe that race relations are deteriorating. The findings are in stark contrast to a similar exercise conducted a generation ago, which found that ethnic minorities were far more optimistic than whites about future

race relations in Britain. Last night, the author of mad Anwar, said second-generation blacks and Asians were more conscious of discrimina-

tion and less willing to tolerate it. The young people have had a British education and they are aware of how things happen. They have a more demanding attitude than their parents who had a mostly submissive attitude in general terms."

Chris Myant, of the Commission for Racial Equality, said the guif between the views of black and white people on race relations was directly linked to discrimination in the job market and police stopand-search tactics. He said: "There has been a decline in

prejudice on the part of the bulk of the population. But young black men, in particular, have a very hard time in the labour market, and they are more likely to be stopped by police. This is bound to increase their perception that race relations

are not going to improve."

The Warwick report found that people aged between 18 and 24 were the most pessimistic, with 79 per cent of blacks, 50 per cent of Asians and 38 per cent of whites predicting that relations would get worse

had the most harmonious view, with 41 per cent saying race relations would get better over the next five years, and only 12 per cent believing they would deteriorate. Whites were less The picture is very different likely to acknowledge discrimination, with only 41 per cent

saying ethnic minorities were comparatively worse off, compared to 65 per cent of blacks and 51 per cent of Asians.

The researchers also found that 29 per cent of Asians thought prejudice would increase, with only 21 per cent

believing it would diminish. Among black respondents, 36 per cent thought race relations were set to worsen, with 22 per cent saying they thought they would improve.

from that painted by a 1975 study, also involving Professor Anwar, which found that 44 per cent of ethnic minority respondents believed race relations were improving, compared to only 32 per cent of whites.

Lee Jasper, chair of Charter 88's Operation Black Vote campaign, which commissioned the

helped explain why 27 per cent of people from ethnic minorities did not appear on the electoral register. "Is it surprising that so many reject a system that often ignores black people's concerns and at times actually

works against them." The Warwick report was based on over 1,400 face-to-face interviews with people in multiracial inner-city areas.

It also examined the voting patterns of ethnic minorities in the last election and found that all parties had an interest in try-

ing to attract more black and Asian supporters. Although Labour had the most ethnic minority support, many Asians backed the Conservatives, with 61 per cent of Pakistanis in the Bradford West constituency voting Tory, and 60 per cent in Birmingham Edgbaston, But Professor Anwar noted that there were still only nine MPs from ethnic minority groups. and he added: "Equality of opportunity in the political process is crucial if we are to achieve equality in other fields." Pessimism growing, page (

Real IRA ends its deadly campaign

THE REAL IRA, the group BY DAVID MCKITTRICK which killed 29 people in the Ireland Correspondent vesterda bowed to the inevitable and announced the end of the short, but bloody, campaign of violence that ensured its name will forever be associated with the

infamy of Omagh. The news was welcomed in almost all quarters, though the British and Irish governments both declared that the move would not affect the intensive police investigation into the attack, which is under way on both sides of the border.

It was also made clear that anyone jailed in connection with the attack could not expect to benefit from the Good Friday Agreement's early prisonerrelease scheme. The first inmates to be freed under the scheme will be out this week.

In Omagh, a Unionist councilior said the ceasefire was "music to my ears", while a nationalist representative added: "All I can say is thank God." Only one of the various republican and loyalist groups, the Continuity IRA, has yet to de-

clare a ceasefire.

Although there is concern that some in the Real IRA's ranks might conceivably attempt to continue violence, the security assessment is that the seven members of its ruling "army council" and the organisation as a whole have genuinely decided to call it a day.

The declaration had been expected for some time, following signs of disarray and even panic within the organisation, which was unprepared for the wave of public condemnation sparked off by the Omagh bomb.

The organisation faced huge challenges on three fronts. Firstly it was facing, and still faces, a determined push from the security forces to put its members behind bars, using the specially tailored laws approved by last week's special sessions of Westminster and the Dail.

Secondly, it was facing immense public disapproval. This manifested itself in the waiving of human rights concerns and approval of the new laws, with the overwhelming weight of opinion in both north and south supporting whatever was thought necessary to shut down the organisation and prevent

more Omagh-style attacks.

persisted in its campaign.



Thirdly, the mainstream IRA appeared to be shaping up to move against the group. During a highly co-ordinated 90minute period last week scores of Real IRA members and supporters were visited by IRA members who told them they were in violation of IRA rules. Some were reportedly told they would be shot if they continued their activities.

The man regarded as the Real IRA's leader, who lives in the Dundalk area of the Republic, was visited by a wellknown senior IRA member from west Belfast who left him in no doubt of the fate that awaited his organisation if it

Regardless of the ceasefire, the authorities are pledged to keep after the Real IRA. Surveillance of suspects is said to have been particularly intense



Hague of 'lacking vision'

TORY LEFT-WINGERS will open BY ANDREW GRICE a new front in their battle with William Hague tomorrow by accusing him of failing to set out a clear vision of what the party

Stephen Dorrell, a former Cabinet minister, will tell a meeting of the Tory Reform Group that the party must urgently fill its "policy vacuum" and will not win the next general election merely by opposing Labour's actions. His move came as other pro-Europeans told Mr Hague that his decision to ballot party members on his policy on a single currency

Political Editor

party's civil war over Europe. Mr Hague has deliberately avoided making policy commitments on grounds that voters are "not listening" to his

party and intends to keep them to a minimum for another year. Mr Dorrell will argue that changes" caused by the global economy and the limited power

Party has to oppose the Government, but it must also set out its own position and a vision

would backfire and not end the of how it would shape society." Last night Mr Dorrell said his speech was not an attack on Mr Hague. But it will not be welcomed by him as he tries to prevent his party's conference next month being dominated by internal disputes.

Yesterday Mr Hague told the Tories have not come to Tory pro-Europeans they terms with the "seismic would become isolated figures if they campaigned for Britain that crippled us ..." But Chris to join the single currency after Patten, former Hong Kong govof politicians to shape events. the party ballot endorsed his "Of course, the Conservative policy of staying outside it in

this parliament and the next. They would be "on their own" and would get "short shrift"

from the rest of the party. Mr Hague, who plans 100 events during a three-week referendum campaign, told his Shadow Cabinet at a strategy session that a good majority was in the country's interests

as well as the party's. John Major rallied to Mr Hague: "We cannot afford a continuation of the disputes that crippled us ..." But Chris

ernor, said he would vote 'No'.

³Turbo-charged tortoises overtaken by man

A LOUIS LINE WILL

THEY WERE built for speed, moved in herds, and could reach up into trees for their food. They ruled their domain for millions of years.

Scientists are now piecing together the truth about the giant racing tortoises of the Mascarene Islands in the Indian Ocean, which became extinct 200 years after the arrival in the 16th century of the deadliest predator of all: humans. Early

By CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

accounts by explorers describe the animals, each about 2.5ft long, as being so plentiful that you "could walk for 300 yards on their backs without once touch-

ing the ground". The arrival of the explorers spelt the end for a group of an-

had had millions of untroubled. years in which they evolved ritius, Reunion and Rodriguez es can float rather like a paper thin shells that left them up to 30kg (66lb) lighter, and much quicker, than their more conventional cousins.

They were not quick enough, however, to escape people, and the last racing tortoise was hunted and cooked in the early 1800s, ending perhaps 8 million imals that were, by tortoise years of an accidental experistandards, turbo-charged. They ment in evolution.

- lie between 500 and 1,000 miles east of Madagascar, potential predators were never able to make the sea crossing.

In fact, said Dr Jeremy Austin of the Natural History Museum, DNA taken from bones suggests that all three islands were seeded by a single pregnant female ancestor, probably swept off an African

Because the islands - Mau- beach by a big wave. "Tortoiscoconut, and survive up to four months without eating or drinking anything," he told the British Association's Festival of Science in Cardiff yesterday.

"The first tortoise must have been wandering on a beach, suddealy found it couldn't touch anything with its feet, and then just bobbed along, and along, until it washed up on another beach."







HOME NEWS

An education chief has quit ahead of a government takeover of his authority

ruined lives with phoney diagnoses, was jailed for five years

HOME NEWS

A bogus doctor, who

FOREIGN

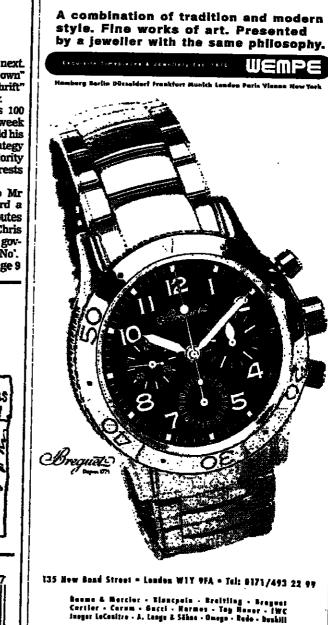
BUSINESS Bill Clinton launched | Sir David Rowland, an attack against the the former Lloyd's of transferred from inquiry that may lead | London chairman, is | Middlesbrough to to his impeachment | to chair NatWest

PAGE 13

Paul Merson was Aston Villa for £6.8m PAGE 14

SPORT





Boys lack gene to stop autism Scientists may have found a genetic explanation for why boys are more likely to suffer from autism. Page 8

Failed rail firms to lose franchise Rail operators who persistently let down their passengers will lose their franchises before they come up for renewal, John Prescott will announce soon. Page 9

FOREIGN NEWS

PAGES 11 - 13

Yeltsin fiddles as Russia panics Boris Yeltsin wasted another day brooding over what to do next in his stand-off with parliament, as panic buying gathered momentum across the country. Page 11

Indonesian students bayoneted Anti-government protesters were bayoneted during a battle between Indonesian troops and students demon-strating against the president, BJ Habibie. Page 12

BUSINESS NEWS PAGES 14 - 19

Markets rally ahead of MPC vote The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee meets today to decide the next move on UK interest rates as markets rallied on the hope of lower US rates.

Rolls strike deal with US group

Rolls-Royce yesterday forged a ground-breaking deal to bring a rival US aero-engine manufacturer into its bestselling Trent engine programme.

SPORTS NEWS

Dickie Bird umpires final match Umpire Dickie Bird begins his final County Championship match today, after 28 years as an umpire, as Yorkshire meet Warwickshire at Headingley.

Manchester fans to voice protest The Manchester United Independent Supporters' Association will distribute thousands of leaflets at the game against Charlton tonight to express their opposition to the mooted takeover by BSkyB.

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

20-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Ken Livingstone

fif we are going to change the voting system, let's get it right the first time, or the voters will lose patience.'

Suzanne Moore

The lust for softer, curvier forms may be described as feminised, but realists among us may note that it has nothing to do with the shall desire – women's bodies.' Page 5

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Arts _	10-11

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Radio, Satellite TV	19
Concise crossword	19
Today's TV	20

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 26



Recycled paper made up 46.03% of the raw material

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WE LEAVE EVERYONE STANBING BUT YOU

Future of United hangs in balance

THE ATTEMPT by BSkyB to BY PETER THAL LARSEN take control of Manchester United was on a knife-edge last night as directors of the Premier League football club tried to squeeze a higher price out of Rupert Murdoch's television group.

Directors of both companies

were yesterday locked in discossions for the second night running at the London offices of HSBC, the City investment bank which is advising the football club

A group called Shareholders United Against Murdoch has been formed to fight the deal. It has pledged to write to the club's 15,000 individual shareholders, who own 23 per cent The anti-Murdoch group has

been set up by the author Michael Crick, the media consultant Richard Lander and advertising executives Richard Hytner and Ben Langdon. Officials at the club are

also bracing themselves for a

tonight's home game against Charlton Athletic. The Football Task Force chairman David Mellor joined the condemnation. Speaking in a personal capacity, he said agreeing to the bid would be "an

act of cardinal folly". He said he had been watching "the struggle for the soul of Manchester United" with mounting concern. "Is this proud club with all its traditions just to be a pawn in a global

AND ANDREW GARFIELD

media power-play by Rupert Murdoch, who hardly knows where Manchester is?'

BSkyB is understood to have made an offer of £575m, valuing each share at 221p. In an attempt to force a deal, the firm is also believed to have issued a deadline requiring the bid to be accepted last night. But United's board, led by

the chief executive Martin Edwards and chairman Sir Roland Smith, were holding out for a higher price. They believe other bidders will offer a higher price if BSkyB refuses to pay up. English National Investment Company, which controls 25 per cent of Glasgow Rangers and has stakes in a number of other European clubs, is weighing up a bid.

But industry analysts played down suggestions that another bidder could be found, and shares in the club dropped 6.5p demonstration of fan power at to 200p as hopes of a bidding war faded. Investors were also discounting the likelihood that any bid would be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Football analyst William Davies, from stockbrokers Albert E Sharp, said: "Even if BSkyB make a bid tomorrow it is likely to take several months before it is concluded. Speculators are not going to want to hang around for six months."

THE CREATION of a new grade BY JEREMY LAURANCE **Health Editor** of supernurse equivalent to a

grade would help keep experienced nurses on the wards. Some nurses at a certain point in their career are happy for murse consultants, who will to move into management. But have their own patients and run many others, having acquired

a wide range of skill and experience, want to progress but still retain direct day-to-day contact

ing said some senior nurse to be put on all nurses. There running their own clinics and operating lists, and argued that it was unclear what tasks the new consultants would take on. No details of the numbers to be created nor salary to be paid were available, the college

practitioners were already are 8,000 vacancies and the recruitment problem needs addressing at every level." Unison, the main NHS

union, said it was delighted at the initiative to "smash the glass ceiling" which forced the best nurses out of nursing. But said. Existing nurses can a spokesman warned: "The most persistent problems in the profession are low pay



Paula Taylor, crowned Nurse of the Year at the ceremony where the 'supernurse' plan was unveiled Rui Xavier

Supernurses 'will not solve NHS recruitment problems' The Royal College of Nurs- ment but a proper value needs

to raise the profile of nursing. earn a maximum of £26,500 on Speaking at the Nurse of the with patients - the reason why the wards. An RCN spokeswoman said: across the board and chronic Year awards, the Prime Ministhey came into nursing in the We welcome this announce- staff shortages." first place," he said. Business, page 15 | ter said the creation of the new

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday came under attack from the Labour Party's biggest backer over its strategy towards the

Amid warnings of the growing possibility of industrial action, the 1.3m strong public service union, Unison, registered its "grave concern" over

Gordon Brown's requirement that pay increases should be self-financing would mean

BY BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

deep cuts to jobs and services, according to leaders of the union's key committee dealing with Labour Party policy.

A motion drawn up yesterday to be tabled at the party's policies on pay restraint in the annual conference next month the Chancellor of the Exche- in Blackpool spoke of the "dequer's three-year austerity moralisation" of public ser- Paper calling for the modernivants and their sense of sation of local government. unfairness.

BRITAIN TODAY

FORECAST

General situation Overnight rain will clear away eastwards. That will allow some brighter weather with fleeting sunny spells, although it will remain cha able and windy. There will be a lot of showers scattered around, some of the giving heavy or prolonged downpours locally, with the threat of thander or h

R & SE England, London, E Angila: Heavy rain clearing but staying windy Some sunny spells but sharp showers possible this everting. Fresh to strong

Channel is, Midhands, Cent S & ME England, Yorks, Lines: Windy Occasional sunny spells, but heavy showers will break out later. Risk of hall or thunder. Fresh to strong south to south-west winds. Max temp 20-22C (58-72F).

OUTLOOK

and J7 Slough. New road layout with a 50mph speed limit in a new half-mile car-

Cool and blustery on Thursday and Friday with a mixture of sunshine and she ers; turning noticeably colder over Scotland and Northern Ireland as a fresh north-westerly wind sets in. Chilip, wet and windy overywhere on Saturday.

Roads: West Midlands: M5 between J5 (B'ham wast) and J2 (Dudley). Resurfac-

ing work with narrow lanes both ways. Until 12th October, West Yorksbire: M1 between J43 Stounton and J42 (Lofthouse Interchange) (M62).

and J42 (Lofthouse Interchange) (M62). Roadworks with 50mph speed limit. Until 1st November. Buckinghametries: M40 between junctions 1a (M25) 8.3 Wyoombe East. Three marries tages both water and 50 mph speed limit.

Labour's election manifesto in critical areas of policy, will ensure that the assembly will not be as submissive as party man-

6.47am 6.33am 6.37am

Public service 'demoralised' says union

agers would have hoped. The proposition calls on the Government to reconsider its public sector, especially as ministers have published a White

hospital medical consultant will

not solve the NHS's recruit-

ment problems, unions warned

The announcement of plans

their own clinics, was made by

Tony Blair as a part of a drive

yesterday.

Unison will urge ministers to Unison's strongly worded recognise the "pressing and urmotion, which also accuses the gent need" for higher levels of

LIGHTING UP

7.56pm 7.37pm 7.39pm 7.51pm 7.30pm 7.40pm 7.39pm

HIGH TIDES

AIR QUALITY Today's readings

NO₂ Good Good Good Good Good Good Good

SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE

For the latest forecasts dial 6891 5009 followed by the two digits for your area. Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min. (src. VAT)

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Government of ignoring public spending to ensure high quality services.

Rodney Bickerstaffe, gen-eral secretary of the union, has warned that his members

The resolution comes after a chorus of criticism of the Government from leaders of private sector unions over the need to boost manufacturing in-

The Bank of England's mon-

etary policy committee, which margaret Hodge, employmeets today to set interest ment minister, was yesterday will eventually resort to indus- prove that it recognises the im-

of more than 600 jobs.

rates, has been warned by the accused of granting small firms Labour Party's biggest affiliates a "licence to discriminate" that it has "one last chance" to against disabled people after she revealed plans for new legtrial action unless the Cabinet portance of the manufacturing islation. The Royal National sector. Pressure on the Prime — Institute for the Blind said that Minister to intervene over the a law which would extend progrowing plight of manufactur- tection for disabled people from ing industry grew last week those working in companies of with the announcement of the 20 or more, to those where the closure of the Fujitsu electron- workforce was at least 15, did ics plant in Tony Blair's Sedge- not go far enough. The measure field constituency with the loss will bring in another 45,000 firms and 750,00 people.

YESTERDAY THE WORLD EXTREMES EUROPE NOON TODAY st: Great Malvern 23C (73F) Coldest (day): Four liste 13C (55F) Methest: Shap 0.83 ins Sunniest: St David's 8.2 hrs For 24hrs to 2pm Tuesday

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

RAIN OR SHINE

5.5 0.02 8.0 0.01

AN OIL shipping port in Mexico was forced to close yesterday because of bad weather conditions. Dos Bocas crude oil port in

the Gulf of Mexico state of Tabasco had to be closed early after a heavy downpour of rain, an official from the harbour pilots' group said. Mexico's other two main

oil-shipping sites on the gulf remained open despite forecasts of poor weather, according to port officials.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

The \$14 million epic adventure to

free Willy – into an unknown future

THE COST OF FREEING WILLY

Crane to lift Kelko over wall of his tank into watertight fibreglass and steel box.

C-17 to carry Keiko on 8-hour flight, costing \$600,000, to Vestmannaeyjar airport on the Vestmans islands off iceland.

On landing Keiko will be taken by truck to his \$12m sea pen to be looked after by an international staff of 30.

IN THE small Pacific fishing By DAVID USBORNE port of Newport, Oregon, a in New York

sending up to the heavens, water to the ocean.

drawing more attention than a about a young boy, Jesse, who shuttle launch from Cape fights to save Willy from an Canaveral. Blast-off is set for owner who means to kill him for 1.15pm, local time, today. But it insurance money. The movie

is not a space rocket they are ends with him leaping a break-

imitating art, this 10,000lb hulk health. He had unsightly car-

It was after the film's box-

office triumph that its irony be-

came public. Unlike his char-

acter, Keiko was still stranded

in Mexico in a tank that was too

small and far too warm for him

and in a deteriorating state of

buncles on his fins and could

barely hold his breath under

water. Then the Free Willy

Keiko Foundation offered him

tank was built for Keiko, com-

plete with a giant-screen colour

television and all the fish he

testament to our new-found re- could eat. There, for two years, termoon when he is rolled on to

spect for our companion beasts he has been pampered like a a canvas sling already attached

on the planet or an absurd dis- babe. Trainers have rubbed his to a scaffold next to his pool.

play of do-gooding sentimen- tummy on demand and crowds. From the sling he will be de-

tality on which millions will be have been flocking to view his posited inside a glass fibre and

friendly frolics through win-

The nurturing of Keiko has

so far cost the foundation \$10m

(£6.1m), some of it vacuumed

hero and to buy the souvenir

flotsam he has spawned. One

beneficiary has been Newport,

which has been transformed

That was in 1996. A \$7.3m,

an experiment in mammal re- two-million-gallon, salt-water put on 1,900 muscular pounds. built in a bay with large mesh

sanctuary in Oregon.

LOGO ILLUSTRATION: GRAHAM WILLIAMS

countdown has begun that s

however. It is a killer whale.

We are talking, of course,

about Keiko, the black and

white Orca who first swam into

our children's hearts in 1993 as

the star of the wildlife weepy,

Free Willy. Now, in a case of life

is being given the chance of

freedom. Today an aquarium

in Newport, tomorrow the chilly

Atlantic waters of the Vest-

What begins this afternoon is

habilitation on a scale never be-

fore attempted. Depending on

your point of view it is either a

spent that might otherwise

urgent ecological causes. The

is expected to be minimal.

scientific value of the exercise

the Icelandic coast and doomed

to a life shuttling between

aquariums that brought him fi-

nally to a water park in Mexi-

have gone towards other more dows in the tank.

It is almost 20 years since from the piggy banks of Amer-

Keiko, then a tiddler among ica's children, desperate to get

whales, was first captured off one glimpse of their celluloid

co City. There he was spotted from a creaking lumber and

by casting scouts from Warner fishing town to a tourist desti-

Brothers films and picked for nation. Nor has it been bad for

mann Islands off Iceland.

Six trainers to manoeuvre Keiko on a stretcher from his pool in Newport, Oregon.

Truck to transport Keiko to Newport airport, along Highway 101, which will be closed to traffic.

Plane will refuelled twice in mid-air.

INTHPINION,

help afterwards if they are to survive, said Ms Dixon, direc-"People should not think tor of field conservation and consultancy for the Zoological Society of London. And their chances are best if they are part

es of life in the wild directly on it. Life in the wild is tough. It Arabia, where they had betheir native Madagascar.

release, and monitoring and great deal of preparation," Ms paigns co-ordinator.

avoid predators, for example."

The zoo deliberately created social groups of the gazelles before release. "Social struc-Dixon said. It is a concern shared by the British group which has been supporting the campaign to return Keiko to the wild, the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society.

"Social structure among orcas is very flexible," said Fran Clarke, the group's cam-

With teams of veterinarians to

watch over him, Kelko will call

this home until the time for his

Whether that moment will in

release into the open ocean.

fact ever arrive is a matter for

speculation. It is the best hope

of the Keiki Foundation that

Once more he will experi-

the ocean - including, it is as-

sumed, the calls of his fellow

other ocean fauna that should

swim through the holes in the

But the risk of failure is con-

any, of living in the wild can

mesh to join him.

warts, caused by a virus, and ball field-sized pen has been

into a giant lorry. Next stop will over several months, its ward

plane. On board, he will be re- killer whales - as well as to

awaiting C-17 Air Force trans- ural habitat.

Now Newport must wave

goodbye to Keiko. His incredi-

ble journey will begin this af-

port plane. He will then face a

nine-hour flight to Iceland, with

two inflight refuellings from

an accompanying KC-10 tanker

peatedly soaked in 40F fresh

salt water. No movies, though.

arrival at Heimaey in the Vest-

mann Islands is 8am tomorrow.

There, everything will be ready.

Keiko's estimated time of





Keiko comes face to face with one of the many admirers who visited him at his sanctuary in the Free Willy Keiko Foundation in Oregon last month

WILLY ON THE INTERNET

sides and a clear plastic bottom. Iceland Welcomes Keiko Back http://keiko.vestmannaeyjar.is/ Free Willy Keiko Foundation is planning a live webcast

http://www.keiko.org/home/story/index.html

"If they end up letting him be the local airport and an will adapt to life back in his nat- go, he'll have to adapt to a very different environment. He's not going to get his turniny ence the currents and noises of rubbed," said Brad Andrews, of the Sea World theme parks. "His skills are by no means what he'd need in the wild."

His trainers in Oregon have done their best to prepare him. Where once dead fish were simply dumped in Keiko's open siderable. What memories, if mouth, recently he has been feeding on fish that are still

of interacting with trainers and some ability in chasing fish left rustiness as a hunter will be a hearts, but to other whales particular worry if ever he is let he's a loser with a skin condigo. Have his instincts as a killer

whale stayed with him? Another worry is his communications skills. For Keiko to survive, he will need to attach himself to a larger pod of whales coursing the Atlantic. But first he will need to locate other whales and befriend them. "Though we are hopeful, he may never find his family again. But when other killer

will communicate and over ingplace rather than a halfway time he may be adopted by a group," suggested Kim Wood, of the Born Free animal welfare Ken Balcomb, the director of

the Center for Whale Research in Washington, has his doubts. 'Keiko's been a big teddy whale all his life," he said this week.

Even worse could happen. It has not escaped the attention of some that this animal, upon which so many millions have been expended, is hardly an

Most Orcas survive to about 30 and Keiko, we know, must be 20 at least. The prospect must exist, therefore, that his Ice-

Nor, in the meantime, is everyone happy among the local Vestmann fishing industry. Some experts warn that Keiko could become a local pest, scavenging fishing boats and ports for free meals. To Keiko, after all, boats and human equal

One local boat owner has already publicly threatened to do the beloved creature in by dumping poisoned fish into his

Still, the folk at the Keiko Foundation cling on to their op-

We've the world's attention. We're not going to take any shortcuts."

spokesman, Jeff Foster. "We've planned for every contingency." Additional reporting by

Tough in the wild for re-introduced captives

REINTRODUCING captive ani- BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY mals into the wild is not a sim- Environment Correspondent ple or easy business, and may not be for Keiko, experts warned yesterday.

that sudden freedom for a captive animal means what it would to a captive human," said Alexandra Dixon, London of a social structure. Zoo's leading reintroduction expert. "To an animal, it means it's suddenly got all the stressmeans the animal has to fend for itself, and hunch is no longer at two o'clock unless it finds it."

Captive animals need long and careful preparation before

The zoo is involved in two successful reintroduction programmes, with sand gazelles in come extinct 40 years ago, and with black and white ruffed

"There does need to be a

be cost and labour-intensive. It's mainly thinking. What do we need to do to maximise the animal's chances in the wild? Some species need training, to



Keiko, star of 'Free Willy' (top left), had a happier ending than the MGM lion, Leo, and other animal stars, such as the original Shippy and the original, male, Lassie scene they put Shippy up a Afurther five each died in turn was hastily purchased.

Sordid secrets of the animal media stars

NOT ALL animal film and TV By LOUISE JURY stars get a happy ending. Leo, the MGM hon who roared at the opening of hundreds of roo is happy up a tree and movies, was dispatched to Skippy panicked. He leapt off a zoo in old age and died and killed himself." within a year. Attempts were made to preserve the site of Flipper, the dolphin, also had a his grave as a place of historical interest, but he is former trainer, Richard

McManus, the late Scottish actor, once told of a disastrous early encounter with a

tree," he recalled. "No kanga-Another loved character,

less than happy time of it. Her now commemorated by a O'Barry, revealed in 1993 that somewhat more ignominious the dolphin, whose real name ar park. was Kathy, was stolen from the pigs who played And many have suffered for her mother, dragged into a There were 48 of them. the sake of their art. Mark concrete pen and starved into performing her apparently cheery tricks.

In the end, she sank to the

Perhaps the best-known Hollywood animal, the female

Lassie, was actually a male called Pai, who wore a wig on his backside to hide his manhood. Five dogs played the role in seven films made between 1943 and 1951.

But it would be difficult to say what became of one of the latest animal film megastars the pigs who played Babe.

One of Britain's own best loved pets, the original Petra, died within days of the dog's debut on the children's kangaroo in the television bottom of her pool, refused to BBC television programme series, Skippy. "One day for a breathe and had to be replaced. Blue Peter. An identical puppy

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Education chief quits after report

A DIRECTOR of education re- By JUDITH JUDD signed yesterday as councillors Education Editor tried to head off the first Government takeover of a failing local education authority.

Ian Jennings is to take early retirement "by mutual agreement" after a report on Calderdale, condemned two years ago for the collapse of discipline at the Ridings school, attacked senior managers' lack of vision and leadership.

Last month, inspectors savaged the Labour-run council for a second time in 18 months after they found that it was failing to raise standards.

Estelle Morris, the schools minister, said that efforts to improve education in Calderdale were being undermined by bad management and warned that schools. She gave the council until Monday to draw up an actration schools feel".

tion plan. Legislation, passed this summer allows the Government to take over failing local authorities.

A report prepared by consultants, called in by the council's chief executive and published yesterday, paints a picture of councillors who spend hours debating trivial issues and officers forced to attend so many meetings that

they cannot get anything done. Schools complain that they are treated with rudeness or indifference and their calls for help go unanswered.

The obsession with detailed interference in schools, says the report, "results in an out-dated it could lose control of its and out-moded way of operating and exacerbates the frus-

Many people believe, says Simon Jenkin, former chief ed- it would be in the interests of ucation officer in Devon and co- the service that he take early author of the report, that councillors insist on so many meetings because they want to collect as much as possible from attendance allowances.

That perception may be unfair, he adds, but there should be changes in the way councillors are paid. Mr Jenkin argues that "key

senior staff lack any vision and sense of direction for the service ... a picture emerges to us of a department which is unwilling to change". His report questions whether Calderdale should

failure, he warns, would affect every authority in the country. A statement from the council said: "Ian Jennings has con-

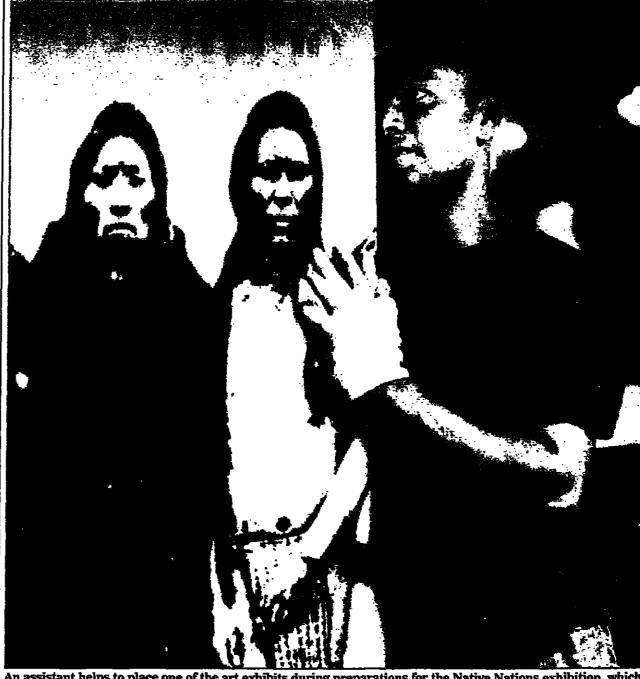
sidered his position and it has

retirement." The decision will be put to the education committee tomorrow.

Helen Rivron, education committee chair, said she was confident that the action plan would be accepted by ministers.

Neil Fletcher, head of education at at the Local Government Association, said: "There is still a mountain to climb for Calderdale in its bid to raise standards. Brave decisions must now be taken." Another troubled council.

Hackney in East London, has hired a private firm to help rum a failing primary school. The Centre for British Teachers, a continue to run its schools. Its non-profit making company, has appointed a head for Rams Episcopal school. It will also advise the school on standards.



Malcolm Grimston, chair of sufficient confidence in its own the education committee, said:

An assistant helps to place one of the art exhibits during preparations for the Native Nations exhibition, which is due to open at the Barbican Centre, in the City of London, tomorrow

Rui Xavier

Council promotes private schools

A LOCAL authority is sending By JUDITH JUDD parents of all 11-year-olds a brochure for nearby fee-paying schools that are in direct competition with its state schools.

in south London, which is also sending out a guide to state schools in the borough, says it

dependent schools' booklet because the Government has abolished the assisted places Tory-controlled Wandsworth scheme. The guides are designed for pupils transferring to secondary school next autumn.

Last year, the council inwas forced to produce the in- cluded the borough's two inde-

STARTS THIS WEEK

with details of the scheme, which subsidised places for bright pupils in private schools. This year, it lists 10 private schools within striking distance of Wandsworth children in a

brochure paid for by the schools.

MATSUI

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pendent schools in its guide "It is the council's job to give parents the widest possible information on which to base this vitally important decision."

A National Union of Teachers spokesman said it was disappointing to find "an education authority which doesn't have

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Ferry firm to open 'booze hypermarkets'

open three drinks hypermarkets in French ports to win a slice of the burgeoning cross-channel alco-

The company wants to enter the £800m-a-year cross-channel duty-free sales from next year.

P&O sells more than £200m worth of duty-free goods a year on its ferries but it is set to lose most of that revenue when duty-free ends next June. Day-trippers looking for cording to recent figures.

cheap drink could be able to shop at P&O warehouses in Calais, Le Havre and Cherbourg from the middle of next

The move is set to trigger a battle with the retailers already operating in France, led by Eastenders, the huge Calais cash-and-carry outlet opened 10 mer barrow boy. Tesco, Sains-

THE FERRY operator P&O is to BY PRANCESCO GUERRERA

bury and Victoria Wine also have shops in the area.

The market for cheap overseas alcohol has grown at breakneck pace in the past few market to offset the loss in years and now accounts for around 15 per cent of all drink bought by Britons in offlicences and supermarkets. Beer tourism cost the Exchequer an estimated £150m a year in lost import duty, ac-

> Graham Dunlop, chairman of P&O Ferries, said the company had identified three sites convince people to go there in the French towns near the without shopping around." boarding points for its ships and added that it was in discussion Eastenders into a £42m-a-year with the French authorities on business, said that the trans-

building the warehouses.

chambers of commerce which own the land.

He said that shoppers with P&0 would be able to phone through their orders days before their trip and collect them on their departure for England, a facility offered by few existing warehouses. The shops

would have large car parks. Mr West, the pioneer of cross-channel shopping, said he was not concerned by the P&O offensive. "It's very, very competitive over here," he said. "The mere fact that it is a P&O cash-and carry is not going to

Mr West, who has built port giant would find it very dif-Mr Dunlop said however ficult to make a profit on its that the company had to over- sales as margins in the wareyears ago by Dave West, a for- come objections of local shop- house business were much owners who sit on the local lower than in duty-free sales.

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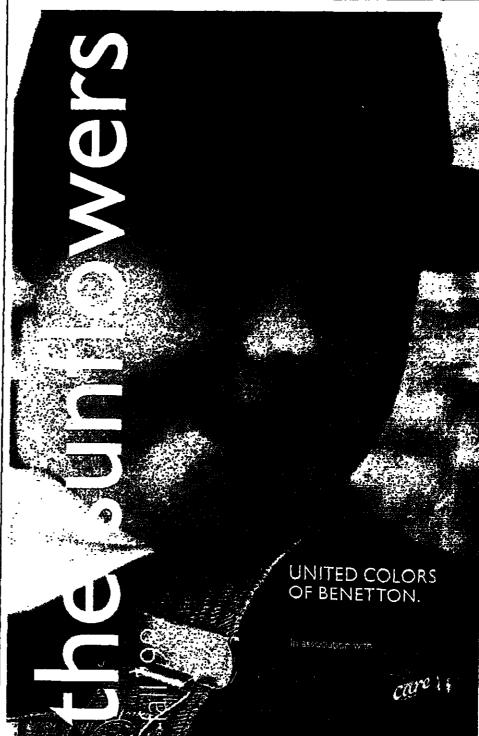
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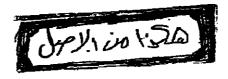
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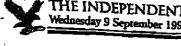




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Commission of the Section





Bogus doctor who ruined lives is jailed

A BOGUS doctor, who made BY KIM SENGUPTA thousands of pounds and ruined hundreds of lives with his phoney diagnoses, was jailed for five years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Godwin Onubogu, 57, was found guilty of a series of charges, including indecent assault, wounding, obtaining money by deception, supplying prescriptions and perverting the court of justice during two Old Bailey trials. Sentencing him, yesterday, Judge Gerald Gordon said: "Those who submit themselves to medical treatment have got to be protected against charlatans - that is what you are."

The "barely educated" laboratory techinican was a one man medical crime wave, it was claimed. The sheer scale of the damage caused was such that Sir Kenneth Calman, the Government's Chief Medical Officer, was forced to issue an umprecedented alert for patients who had received his treatment.

Onubogu carried out HIV and cervical smear tests which were worthless and left patients without a proper course of treatment and at risk. He also appeared in court as an expert witness on behalf of those charged with drinking and driving, in return for fees of around £8,000 per case.

Following the appeal by Sir Kenneth the search began for up to 500 patients who had been given cervical smear and HIV tests by Onubogu. Further appeals from a number of health authorities asking anyone who had been treated by Onubogu to contact them. Around 100 did so, the rest still

have not been traced. A loophole in the law led to the Health and Safety Executive, the General Medical Council and the Royal College of Pathologists being frustrated in attempts to take any action to run three other clinics. against the Nigerian father-oftwo. Onubogu, who came to contacted Wandsworth Council

Britain 31 years ago, claimed to have various qualifications, including a doctorate from the Columbia Pacific University awarded after a correspondence course. He also claimed to have worked at the London Chest Hospital and the Laboratory of London Chemists.

He falsely boasted that he had diagnosed that Kenny Everett, the late DJ, suffered from Aids, and in one of the references he supplied for himself he wrote "Onubogu is an enigma whom we all admire and glorify". In reality his "medical



Godwin Onubogu

expertise" consisted of a stint as a laboratory technician at St Thomas's Hospital, in south London in the 1970s. His education was a handful of "O" levels and one year at Open University.

Onubogu started up with the Iketam Laboratory in Balbam High Road, south London, in the early 1980s. He was backed by the Wandsworth Enterprise Agency, set up by Wandsworth Council, who provided a grant. The opening ceremony was carried out by the then Mayor. Onubogu went on

In September 1992 police

officials after bearing medical samples including blood, urine and tissues were being kept under dangerous conditions. But attempts to close it down failed. The council discovered there was nothing to stop anyone from setting themselves up in a laboratory and calling themselves a doctor, as long as they did not say they were reg-

His cases included one women with sleeping difficulties who was charged £415 and told she must have contracted a sexual disease from her partner. The couple split up. A patient with a cut on his hand was told he had infected with a sexual disease by his wife. A couple who went to him with their children was told the whole family had venereal disease. The mother and father separated. A woman who told Onubogu that she was about to get married to her Afrian fiancee was told she had given him gonorrhea.

Many of the tests involved intimate physical examinations, over which Onnbogu was charged with indecent assault. He is also alleged to have in-decently assaulted a 15-yearold girl he examined.

Onubogu was discovered giving evidence as an expert vitness for accused drink drivers at up to £8,000 a time. One of his favourite diagnoses was that the driver was "an unwilling victim of his aberrant biochemistry". Almost of all of it was described at his subsequent Old Bailey trial as " nonsense, rubbish and lies".

Detectives took along a qual ified chemist to the clinic and in his opinion none of the equipment was capable of analysing alcohol in blood or urine.

Further searches revealed the sheer extent of the misdiagnosis, non-existent or wrong treatment and the arbitrary icine being carried out by Onubogu.



The next Miss World will appear without make-up and wear a T-shirt and jeans, unlike her predecessors including, Diana Hayden, the reigning Miss World (above), Kiki Haakansson, the first winner (top) and Giselle Laronde, the winner in 1986 (right)

Andrew Buurman





Miss World reconstructed for TV

HOW DO you counter accusa- By DAVID LISTER. tions that Miss World is sexist Arts News Editor and a cattle market?

The answer, apparently, is to show the girls without make-up and to reposition the contest as an exercise in girl power

Street credibility is about to be given to one of the most politically incorrect of British traditions. The Miss World contest is likely to return to terrestri-al television after years in exile, complete with rock music, doling out of prescription med- | trendy presenters and the most beautiful women in the world without their make-up.

In his 48th year of promoting the contest, Eric Morley, veteran impresario, has bowed to accusations that the contest is sexist and old fashioned and hired the producer of The Brits, The Pepsi Chart and The Three

Tenors concerts to bring the contest into the Nineties. Malcolm Gerrie, head of the independent television compathe Seychelles in November. He I will want coltish presenters face are her best assets then said he was in discussion with two terrestrial broadcasters.

"I have been given complete freedom," he said. "I have insisted that the girls no longer wear national dress. I don't even know what the national dress of England is. I have insisted that we show them backstage, without make-up and actually doing activities and

sports in T-shirts and jeans. "I have insisted that we have show would be back on British judges' meetings, so we can see screens when it takes place in what they look for in a girl. And

with a youth following, possibly someone like Chris Evans or Geri Halliwell." He added that he wanted to get across the idea

that Miss World was about "empowerment". The theory that the contest could be remoulded as a vestige of girl power was endorsed by

his co-producer, Julie Cave. She said: "Tve had plenty of stick for taking on this job, especially from my friends. But ny Initial TV, said yesterday the access for the first time to the I'm a girlie and I believe in a girlie's right to choose.

that's fine. The show will be directed by

Hamish Hamilton of MTV, the television music channel. Though the contest has long been infra dig in Britain, it remains one of the top-rated

events worldwide with 1.4 billion

viewers in 130 countries. In

Latin America it gets a far big-

ger audience than the Oscars. A spokesman for the Seychelles Tourist Board said that the contest would show that the Seychelles was interested in de-"And if her figure and her veloping eco-tourism.

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Drug offenders face DNA tests in crime crackdown

DNA SAMPLES are to be taken By JASON BENNETTO from all convicted drug dealers and users in one of Britain's

largest police force areas. In what is believed to be the first mass-testing of drug offenders, an estimated 1,500 profiles are expected to be added to the national DNA database during the next three months. The profiles will be checked against DNA samples taken from the scene of unsolved crimes to see if there is a link

If the pilot programme, which begins in the West Mid-

IN BRIEF

DETECTIVES ARE investigating the deaths of 27 patients under the care of a doctor who was yesterday charged

with murder Harold Shipman, 52, of, Hyde, Greater Manchester, was remanded in custody until 15 September by Tameside magistrates, Ashton, charged with the murder of his patient, Kathleen Grundy, 81, on 24 June, falsifying a

Man dies while under police guard

AN INVESTIGATION began yesterday after a 44-year-old

spokesman said officers had been called in after the man

man died while being detained by police in a hospital. The unnamed man, from Brackneil, Berkshire, died at Wexham Park Hospital in Slough last Saturday. A police

had reacted badly to being informed of an illness.

Robber's blast injures Britons

SIX BRITISH holiday-makers including a one-year-old

haby were injured yesterday when a robber threw explo-

a couple in their 60s and a family of four. All were hit by

flying glass but released from hospital after treatment.

PEOPLE in Scotland are more likely to kill themselves

Suicide most common in Scotland

than those in other parts of Britain, and Manchester is the

suicide capital of England, according to a report from the

Office for National Statistics yesterday. Poorer areas have

Woman stabbed to death in alley

A 21-YEAR-OLD woman was fatally stabbed in an alleyway

on her way to work at a city centre bank yesterday. Police

said Ruksana Begum was killed less than 50 yards from

her bome in Handsworth, Birmingham, just after 8.15am.

West Midlands police have appealed for witnesses.

more suicides than others.

sives at a bank in the Dutch ferry port of Hook. They were

GP remanded in custody on

patient murder charge

£300,000 will, and forging documents.

Crime Correspondent

lands in October, proves successful it is expected to be adopted by other police forces. The initiative follows nationwide research earlier this year which found that more

than 60 per cent of criminal suspects who agreed to be tested for illegal drugs proved positive. Home Office figures sug-

gest that a third of property crimes are carried out by drug users needing to fund their

and £20,000 a year.

month in Solihull, revealed that cause of the expense.

balf of 108 people arrested were Detective Inspector Richard half of 108 people arrested were regular heroin users. Between Leary, West Midlands' scientific them they had accumulated property from thefts and burglaries worth £11m.

the West Midlands for poshabit - an annual total of about drugs will be added to the na-

£2.5bn. A typical heroin or crack tional database. Until now cocaine addict is likely to steal forces have tended to use DNA property worth between £10,000 sampling for violent crimes, sexual offences and burglary. Research carried out by Tests are not routinely carried West Midlands Police, during a out for drug offences, partly be-

development officer, said: "After the trial is launched, anybody who is financing a drug habit or From next month anyone a drugs network through crime who is charged or cautioned in is liable to be linked, not only with a particular drugs crime, sessing dealing or transporting but also with other crimes used to finance their lifestyle."

Ivory box bought for £9 goes on sale for £300,000

A CARVED ivory box bought for BY LOUISE JURY £9 may fetch up to £300,000 at auction after it was recognised as 1,000 years old and one of the most significant Islamic discoveries for decades.

Only seven other dated examples of such ivory vessels are known to exist, and all are in museums. Marcus Fraser, director of

Sotheby's Islamic and Indian department, said: "This box is definitely one of the major Islamic discoveries in living memory. "The astonishing quality, beauty, rarity and art-historical

significance of this box make it one of the most outstanding Islamic works of art ever to come to auction." Nicholas Shaw, an expert in the auction house's Islamic

department, said he took a "sharp intake of breath" when he was first sent photographs by the curious owner "I could hardly believe it. Pieces such as these are so

rare and I couldn't imagine that one could turn up in Yorkshire," said Mr Shaw.

wish to be named, had attended the sale where it was bought with his uncle in 1947, when he was 12.

It was part of a job lot with other ornamental items in the sale of contents of Hickleton Hall, near Doncaster - the former home of the first Earl of Halifax - and the uncle bid just £9-19-6d.

The current owner inherited the box when his uncle died, and kept it in the hall of his home in Yorkshire.

Intrigued by its history, he took it to experts at the BBC's Antiques Roadshow last year. They recommended he contact auctioneers.

The box is one of a small surviving group of vessels made in the late 10th and early 11th century to glorify the lifestyles of the great Moslem rulers in the Spanish city of Cordoba. They appear to have been made exclusively for the

ruling family. The box is a star lot in an auction on 15 October during The vendor, who does not Sotheby's Islamic week.

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Race relations: Pessimism among black Britons is growing in the shadow of the Stephen Lawrence murder inquiry

Blacks 'expect racism to get worse'

GEORGE MCPHERSON is no BY IAN BURRELL stranger to racial abuse. After Home Affairs Correspondent arriving in Britain 50 years ago in the first wave of Jamaican immigrants, he was fully exposed to the prejudice of the more ignorant sections of the native population.

But he does not regret his decision to board the SS Windrush and make his life in the "mother country". Settled in Birmingham and married for 47 years to an English wife, he believes his proud Jamaican

happened to us, whatever was

said to us, we could think back in our hearts to our homes and our families. We knew who we were and we were proud of that knowledge," he said. "We were prepared to shrug off prejudice.

from the bigots. "We knew

where we came from. Whatever

We took a lot of hassle. Today's kids won't take that." The level of discontent among second and third

generation Afro-Caribbeans was underlined yesterday by a new study, which found that 79 per cent of young blacks felt race relations in Britain would get worse in the next five years.

That is in stark contrast with the white community, which appears to be overcoming the concerns of a generation ago and accepting the idea of a multi-racial society.

Researchers from the University of Warwick found 41 per cent of whites thought race relations would improve over

Race relations in (Age group 18-24) 79 57

the next five years, and only 12 per cent thought they would deteriorate. The gulf of opinion against the background of an inquiry into the death of teenager who was stabbed in a racial attack in 1993.

The inquiry has shone a spotlight on racial attitudes within the police service and exposed evidence of discrimination. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has said he was shocked to find that black people are up to eight times more likely to be stopped and searched by police than whites.

that blacks were stopped at a Stephen Lawrence, the black rate of 155 per 1,000 compared with 34 for whites and 47 for Asians. In Mersevside, the number of black people stopped was 189 per 1,000. The greatest racial difference was in Surrey, where blacks were eight times more likely to be targeted. Mr Straw said the findings were "a

matter of concern". Despite a series of initiatives by the Home Office to combat racial crime, there has been no

A report by Statewatch, a impact on the number of race Their music, sport and cultural police research group, found attacks during the past decade. In the past three years there

have been 866 serious racial assaults, 482 arsons, five attempted murders and nine murders. At the same time, job opportunities for black workers which improved between 1984 and 1990 - worsened again.

Yet Chris Myant of the Commission for Racial Equality said there was increasing harmony among younger people. He said: "Younger people are at

The Trinidad-born broadcaster Darcus Howe said: "We country. My younger children, now 12 and 13, are much more self-assured than their bigger brothers and sisters were at that age.

But Mr Howe said the future of race relations depended much on economic factors. He criticised findings based on the questioning of individuals as

identity helped to protect him 'It's a case of us and them

CHERYL JONES, 19, is studying law at Downing College, Cambridge. She is optimistic about her own professional prospects. but said there was a noticeable difference in the way black and Asian people were perceived in the two areas in which she moved - and a noticeable difference in the prospects for im-

"I think my perception is that there is a difference between the ordinary person in the street and in academic and business circles," she said yesterday.

Where I am at Cambridge in the academic and business circles, I definitely think it is getting better, racism is definitely going down. But for the ordinary person in the street the situation is not changing.

"I come from a reasonably poor area of Birmingham and the situation is still pretty much the same among white counterparts in the area that I live in. They are still quite racist." Miss Jones believes the difference is down to class and education. "I would say it's an

educational thing. But I think

the boundaries are drawn

much clearer in working-class

districts. It tends to be very

much an 'us-and-them" situation." she said.

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provements in race relations.

Cheryl Jones sees less racism at college than where she grew up Kalpesh Lathigra

based more on what your academic ability is, what your business ability is, and race starts to matter a lot less."

While her white colleagues Whereas, when you get to and lecturers were more ar-

was only surface treatment, a veneer that needed to go deeper before the underlying problems were addressed.

Despite the apparent softening in establishment racist at-

the opinions formed tend to be ing to terms with the problem titudes Miss Jones was conof racism, she said she felt it cerned by the lack of representation of black, Asian and Chinese faces in the upper echelons of her chosen profession.

"It is noticeable that you don't see many, isn't it?" she

6Colour can be a help to me

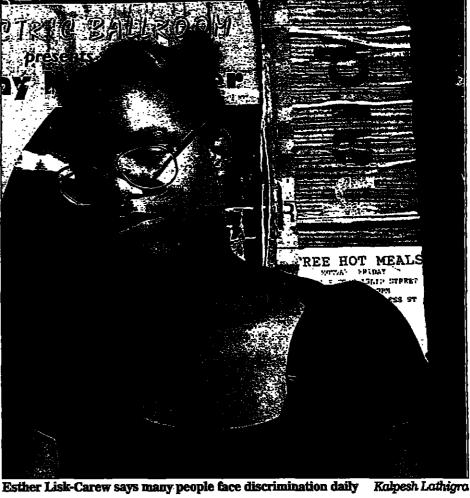
ESTHER LISK-CAREW, reading law with French at Liverpool University, says she is unconvinced by rhetoric that tells her black and white candidates have equal chances,

despite her own bright future. "În legal circles I have found conflicting messages," Ms Lisk-Carew, from Birmingham, said: I found a lot of stereotyping when I went to do my work experience. I heard a lot of stories about black and Asian lawyers and how it is a lot harder for them to get work."

She acknowledged that there were attempts to overcome any potential discrimination. "I have been encouraged to join schemes set up to help Asian and African lawyers to get ahead and get advanced in areas like business," Ms Lisk-Carew, 19, said. Groups such as the Society of Asian Lawyers, a networking club, worked hard to place and promote Asians in the legal profession.

"I did take some encouragement from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where I would like to work. They saw it as a positive aspect that I was a woman and that I was black."

Miss Lisk-Carew, whose family is from Sierra Leone. said: "I feel that as a young black person it is a lot more



barriers, primarily because you young black people are not who was the victim of crime. tend to be in 'a black community' where these barriers do In the Stephen Lawrence inraise their head more readily. quiry, it became evident that he People tend to stereotype groups and so membership of that group raises its own par- be threatening, which is not the difficult to get away from the ticular problems. As a group, point because he was the one

necessarily being helped at all. was seen typically as a young black man who could possibly

"Mostly the racism that occurs is something that I can ignore but there are a lot of people I know who suffer it on

> CASE STUDIES BY GARY FINN

the middle and upper classes ticulate in describing and com-The UK's Bes Our promise to you 333M-II DVD The UK's best multimedia PC complete with DVD is here. A truly incredible specification for just £1099+VAT. Exec model now and get 12 months Interest Free Credit with 333 MX (N-II) New SuperFast BM pro 1924x pipeline burst cache NOTHING to pay until September 1999 1288b high performance SURAM Messive 10.16b Uliz UMA-33 hard disk ASP/2 3D graphes with 4Mb SGRAM TV-OUT tackly for large screen gamesplay 15" SVGA 0.28dp colour monitor SEK Rockyrell voca/factels internet modern 30 wavetable stenso scund • DATO-ROM II drave (also functions as tast CD-ROM TWO decoder and MPEG-II software

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MP in sleaze case tells of 'knives in my back'

THE LABOUR Party tribunal By STEPHEN GOODWIN investigating allegations of detrimental conduct by the suspended MP Tommy Graham began yesterday in an atmos-

phere of bitter recrimination. Mr Graham, MP for West Renfrewshire, said there had been a systematic "conspiracy" against him, and added that if the National Constitutional Committee hearing expels him from the party he will continue to sit as an MP, working for his constituents and aiming to

Mr Graham arrived for yesterday's hearing, at Keir Hardie House in Glasgow, proclaiming his innocence. "Tve been waiting long enough for this," he said. "I am desperate to get in

there and get the ball rolling. "I'm now going to have my say for the first time in 12 months. I'm confident I'll get aconitted."

Scotland Correspondent

The MP said the past year had been the most "horrific" of his life, and claimed his critics were motivated by personal ambition, spite, animosity, and his "old Labour" image.

"I might not be the image they would like ... " he said. "My back is full of knives. However, they will not remain there that

Mr Graham was suspended from Labour's parliamentary ranks last year after the suicide of the Paisley South MP. Gordon McMaster, whose death brought out into the open years of acrimony and faction-fighting within Labour's ranks

Although Mr Graham was cleared of allegations that he had smeared Mr McMaster, he went on to face accusations

Labour's interests, and the affair became the focus of damaging allegations of Labour 'sleaze" in its urban Scottish

Yesterday's disciplinary hearing was held behind closed doors, with party officials refusing to give details of the five charges against Mr Graham. They are believed to include

an allegation about offering sexually compromising photographs of a trade union official in return for information, "bad mouthing" fellow MPs including Irene Adams, the member for Paisley North - and a catch-all charge of acting in a way prejudicial to the party.

Party sources claimed last week that the case against Mr Graham was cast-iron and that he would become the first MP to be expelled by the Labour Party since the militants Dave

of acting in a way prejudicial to Nellist and Terry Field in 1991. But a dispute between potential witnesses and a feeling that the evidence might be rather thin caused some backpedalling yesterday, with speculation that Mr Graham's punishment - if he is found guilty-might be limited to a further short suspension. He has already been suspended since

> The tribunal is expected to announce its decision today. Whatever the verdict, the saga is likely to be a continuing

embarrassment for Labour. If Mr Graham is expelled, he intends to seek to overturn the decision through the civil courts and he will still remain a member of the House of Commons. If he is acquitted, or dealt with leniently, other MPs and senior figures in the Labour movement will have in

Forestry turns over a new leaf

THE FORESTRY Commission is By MICHAEL MCCARTRY to make a radical break with its past by cutting down 200,000 immature trees to create a nature

The commission will clear 300 acres of Corsican pines from Whitharrow, a fell in the Lake District, and return it to its former glory as a limestone grassland rich in rare flowers

It is a departure for a body that a decade ago was regularly accused of ruining the landscape by planting massed rows of dark conifers across Britain. But its remit has been broadened in recent years and now includes a duty to conservation and to the landscape as well as imber production.

Limestone grassland, which supports many rare plants and osects, is an internationally im- the end of this week.

Environment Correspondent

is one of the best examples in Britain. It is home to uncommon flowers such as the limestone bedstraw and Britain's fastest-declining butterfly, the small pearl-bordered fritillary.

The felling will also remove the inappropriate "Mohican haircut" the trees appear to give the fell, which lies near Kendal and is visible from the main road into the Lake District from the south.

The pines are not ready for proper timber harvest and the commission, which planted them 30 years ago, will only cover its costs in felling them. Whitharrow is to be declared a National Nature Reserve at

VIAGRA CORNER

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

ADVERTISING watchdogs have launched a clampdown on companies advertising Viagra or products given a similar name, days before the drug is expected to be licensed in Britain.

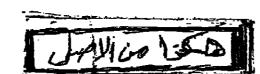
A spokesman for the Advertising Standards Authority said: "Viagra has become the most written and talked about medicine for a long time. One inevitable result of this coverage is an advertising bandwagon, with companies clamouring to advertise

Viagra or imitations of it." One advertisement that is under investigation details the alleged virtues of a drug called Vigorex under the headline "Finally available in the UK. The potency pill that swept America".



That advertisement is the subject of an investigation, the spokesman said. He added: "What we are

doing is warning advertisers that if they try to pass off something as Viagra or try to sell it direct despite it not being licensed there will be problems."



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INDEPENDENT

THE Pink Paper, the only national weekly gay newspaper, is having a facelift to transform it from worthy political campaigner to trendy all-round magazine. But before the newlook mag has even hit the streets, the change is causing controversy.

Its owner, Kelvin Sollis, decided that 10 years of losses were enough: it was time to go commercial. But the decision has hit some of the oldest readers hard - they think it is deserting its serious political agenda

David Northmore, a Pink Paper journalist, believes gay politics had overtaken the paper's agenda. "In the beginning we were coming from the perspective of a gay community on the outside of society screaming to be let in. Now we are practically part of the mainstream, and the paper needs to reflect that."

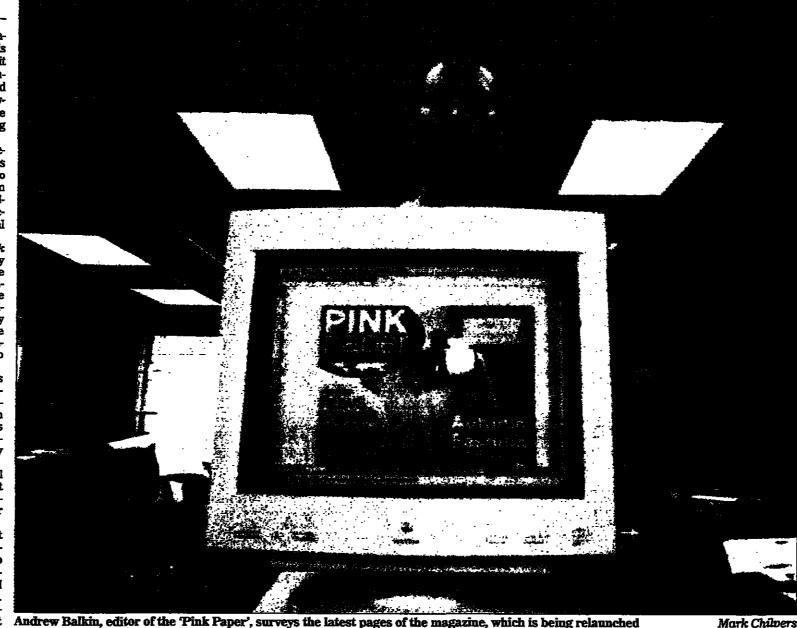
The problem was, says David Bridle, the paper's general manager, that young readers were turning their backs on it. He knew something was wrong when gay men and lesbians stopped using its lonely hearts phone lines.

The new Pink Paper will still carry hard-core gay news. But it will have a definite shift towards lighter, more popular features and lifestyle items.

Also, David Bridle says, it needs to win back lesbian readers. The paper had catered too much for the young men so valued by advertisers, he says, and now needs to redress that bias.

But the Pink Paper's transformation has not come about without a fierce internal fight. Tim Teeman, the former editor, left the magazine after a falling out. At a leaving presentation he said that he had been treated as "beneath contempt", and was promptly escorted from the

Mr Bridle, who is responsible for balancing the books, says: "Teeman had a huge amount of independence and



Andrew Balkin, editor of the 'Pink Paper', surveys the latest pages of the magazine, which is being relaunched

advertising department and the publisher and make sure the paper survived, to ask how the editorial content can bring in wider advertising."

Mr Teeman is concerned that the paper might now lose its "sophisticated" coverage of news and political issues, that it will go the way of the monthdid a very good job. But he lies, which "believe that didn't want to sit down with the politics is a dirty word," and strong emphasis on celebrity in-

whose news coverage he calls ʻappalling".

The comments reflect the way the gay publishing market has developed in recent years. Gay clubs and bars are full of free magazines that concentrate on the gay scene. Others, such as the Pink Paper's sister paper, Boyz, and the relative newcomer Attitude, have a

terviews, fashion and lifestyle. Boyz recently carried a cover of Lorraine Kelly, the

GMTV presenter, and newly established gay icon, and a feature on Dame Edna Everage. Boyz, which has until now subsidised the Pink Paper, says that some rivals in the market have made much of gay politics into a cult of victimhood. Colin Richardson, the deputy editor

of Gay Times, rejects the notion that discriminatory laws and attitudes persist. "It's an accusation bandied about by people who have abandoned political

campaigns," he says.

The debate between the serious and frivolous ends of the gay mag market has a power-ful echo in the United States. America's largest gay magazine, Out, has just imported

PINK PAPER

Circulation 57,000, Free.

Started as a weekly community newspaper 10 years ago. It is picked up in clubs and bars by gays and lesbians in search of a serious dose of news. The paper has consistently broken gay stories, and gained a reputation for Westminster coverage. Now seen as a veteran campaigner for gay causes, and depending on your outlook, is on the





Circulation 64,000. £2.50. With 12 years of history, it is the oldest of the established gay papers. and promotes itself as the biggestselling gay news magazine outside North America. A monthly with a mix of serious politics and lifestyle articles. Has taken up campaigns on the age of consent, and the activities of right-wing Christian fundamentalists. Is currently concerned about the rise of clergymen who claim they can "cure" people of their

BOYZ

Circulation 55,000. Free. Covers the gay scene, comes out weekly, and is sister paper to the Pink Paper. Aimed at 18-35 year olds, it is escapist, fun-loving, and likes to celebrate the jolly side of being gay. "We point to the fact that we are a wonderful unique community. We should not have to conform to society's ideas of how we should be. We should not compromise, says editor David Hudson. For all its seven year history it has donated practically all of its profits to keeping the Pink Paper afloat.





Circulation 55,000. £2.50. Up-front, in your face, scene and non-scene men's lifestyle magazine, more like Arena than the Gay Times, Launched four years ago and criticised by campaigners as being totally apolitical and dumbing down gay politics. "Unlike Gay Times, we don't cover things only because they are gay," says editor Paul Hunwick. So successful, that its former

DIVA

Circulation 35,000. £2,00 Described by readers as "Cosmo meets Red meets Marie Claire". Founded four years ago, the only commercial lesbian magazine on the market. A glossy publication, concentrating on lifestyle, features and celebrity interviews, with the occasional political article. A world away from old feminist rags such as Spare Rib and Every Woman, both of which folded. Makes money, and in April went from bi-monthly to monthly



Pop musician 'was set on fire'

A TALENTED black pop musician who died after being found on fire in mysterious circumbeen torched by four youths, an inquest jury was told yesterday.

Michael Menson was found wandering naked and with horthe burns unit at Billericay Hospital in Essex two weeks later. Despite his family's insis-

tence that he was the victim of stances told his brother he had a race attack, police have been unable to come up with any evidence about how his injuries were inflicted.

Yesterday, Hornsey cororific burns on the North Circu-ner's court in north London lar Road, north London, early on heard that Mr Menson, a diag-28 January last year. He died in nosed schizophrenic who had five hit singles during the 1980s with the group Double Trouble, told his brother, Kwesi, that he

believed he had been attacked by the youths.

Mr Menson, 30, who had spoken from his hospital bed, had said the youths, aged about 16, had been on a 299 bus with him to Walthamstow.

He told his brother he got off Menson made a note of the bedside conversation, which was read out in court by Terry Munyard, counsel for the family. It said: "I leant back on the

gates of a church and the next thing I knew I was on fire. I ran | niacs with two-thirds of the down the North Circular to a car and some people were

standing." Kwesi Menson insisted his brother was lucid at the time of the conversation despite his the bus near a church. Kwesi pain, mental illness and the pain-killing drugs he was on. "He was very alert and very aware of what was going on

around him," he said. The hearing continues today.

BRITAIN IS a nation of insompopulation claiming not to get

enough sleep, says a survey. One in five people say they suffer from a severe lack of sleep and 64 per cent say they could do with more. Only the Swedes complain more, with almost three-quarters claiming they do not spend enough time

asleep in bed. The findings, presented at the European Sleep Research

By JEREMY LAURANCE **Health Editor**

Society's meeting in Madrid yesterday, confirm that worrying about not getting enough sleep is a bigger problem than lack of sleep itself. Psychiatrists say that mood is as important as hours spent asleep in determining how people assess the quality of their time in bed.

James Collard, a former editor

of Attitude, to turn it into a more

The controversy is just like

Mr Collard is praised by

those who believe he is in touch

with a younger, less agonised gay community. His detractors,

in the meantime, accuse him

of dumbing down and selling

Britain tired and emotional

commercial product.

that at the Pink Paper.

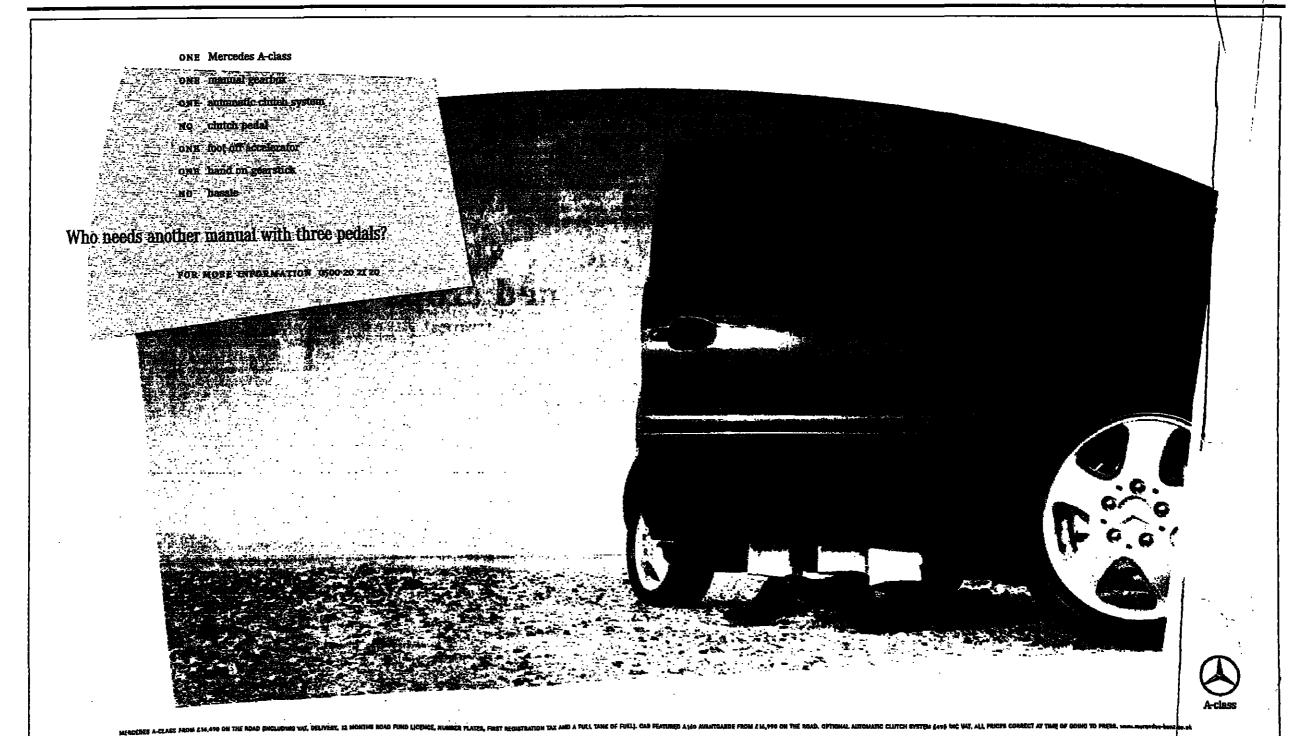
Professor Ian Hindmarch, head of the psychopharmacol-

versity of Surrey, said: "Insomnia is often a symptom of plained of sleeping difficulties. Experts say that the presomething else that is wrong. such as anxiety. The survey shows that people with severe insomnia have lived with the condition for up to 10 years."

The survey, commissioned by Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, man-ufacturers of sleeping pills, was conducted among 9,300 people in Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Britain and Ireland. The Ger-

ogy research unit at the Uni- mans were the most alert-less than half the population com-

> occupation with sleep loss is itself becoming a medical problem. The greatest enemy of sleep is worry about the lack of it. Most people who lose sleep will recover it in 24 hours and be able to cope in the meantime. Overcoiping the fear of not being able to cope is one way to conquer insomnia



Boys lack gene to prevent autism

SCIENTISTS MAY have found a DEVELOPMENT genetic explanation for why boys are four times more likely than girls to suffer from autism. a mental disorder that prevents children from forming normal social bonds with friends and relatives.

ing

fathers that protects them against autism, whereas boys are more vulnerable because they inherit the factor only from their mothers, whose protective genes are more likely to

The research is part of a wider programme of work trying to explain why boys are much more likely than girls to suffer from a range of serious problems developmental involving social behaviour and language, such as autism and attention-deficit disorder.

"Even among normal children, girls generally outperform boys in those very same skills," said Professor David Skuse, of the Institute of Child Health in

"We have evidence for a genetic mechanism that could explain female superiority over maies in some aspects of social

"Boys are far more likely than girls to be socially maladjusted. Social skills are probably distributed as a 'bell curve' in the general population. We have found the curve is shifted to the left in boys, so there are relatively more boys than girls with poor skills." Severe autism affects about

four children in every 10,000, although, if milder autistic symptoms are included, the rate climbs to about one in every

The vulnerability of boys to

autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders, all of which are associated with the impairment of social skills, has never been satisfactorily explained." Professor Skuse Girls appear to inherit a genetic predisposition from their a lower threshold of suscepti-

bility in boys than girls." Although boys are more affected than girls, there is no evidence that the genes that predispose to autism are carried on the X-chromosome, as they are with sex-linked disorders such as haemophilia, which usually affect boys but not girls.

Boys have only one Xchromosome, which they inherit from their mothers, whereas girls have two, one from each parent.

"The threshold hypothesis we are suggesting is that normal girls who carry their father's X-chromosome also have a protective factor on that chromosome that helps to prevent them from developing autism," Professor Skuse said.

"We believe it is an imprinted gene, which is switched off when inherited from one parent and switched on when inherited from the other. "In this particular instance

we are suggesting the gene is always switched on when it transmitted by a father and always switched off when it is transmitted by a mother."

One possible explanation for why boys are more likely to be autistic is that it offered some evolutionary benefit in the past, Professor Skuse said. "It may be that to be slightly less socially responsive may have been an advantage to



A workshop at the Festival of Science, in Cardiff, demonstrating bow a total eclipse of the Sun will occur on 11 August next year Tom Pilston

Joy of sex can help conception

it is determined by the fertile

period rather than sexual

"Previous research demon-

GOOD NEWS and good sex FERTILITY increase the chances of a woman becoming pregnant, according to research into the effects of stress and sexual enjoyment on fertility.

Women whose IVF treatment is not going well might be more likely to become pregnant at the end of the course if they were spared the results of any tests undertaken during therapy. A separate study has found couples trying to have a baby might be more likely to succeed if women enjoy sex rather than seeing it as an experience that has to be endured as a means to an end. under stressful conditions, as in the study, which involved for at least seven years to

Scientists at Cardiff University's school of psychology said they found more sperm in the cervix of women who say they have good sex than in those who say they failed to achieve orgasm. Jacky Boivin, a psychologist from the university, said high numbers of sperm drawn into the cervix may be a factor that can significantly increase chances of small effects may take on conception in women who are much greater significance," not very fertile.

"In such couples, lovemaking frequently occurs an average age of 30 took part.

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is not related to the ability to

strated that generations of mothers have never experienced orgasm, which appears to prove that sexual ple "However, this conclusion does not preclude the possi-

desire," she said.

bility that in some groups Dr Boivin said. A group of 71 women with

asking them questions about have babies and were undertheir sexual enjoyment a few hours after intercourse.

This was done when they attended a clinic to have a post-coital test for the quality and quantity of sperm reach-

"The findings suggest that the quality of women's sexual response may facilitate the migration of sperm from the vaginal pool to the cervical and uterine environment," Dr Boivin reported to the British Association.

Another study of 107 Cardiff women who had tried going IVF found that any bad news relayed to them by medical staff when tests were done after 30 days led to a greater risk of treatment

Many doctors assume it is

best to relay any negative results to patients during the course of IVF treatment. because it prepares them to accept that they may not become pregnant at the end of the cycle, but the Cardiff researchers found this did not mirrors and how your beliefs make things any easier for the women if they remained

Mirrors relieve pain of amputee

MIND OVER MATTER

MIRRORS ARE helping patients with amputated limbs to overcome the pain they can still feel

in their lost arm or leg. "Phantom limb syndrome" affects almost everyone who has lost a limb. The imagined limb often becomes painful when apparently distorted in a cramped position.

Professor Vilayanuas Ramachandran, director of the centre for brain and cognition at the University of California. said mirrors were proving more effective than powerful pain-killing drugs at relieving the discomfort of the syndrome.

He places a mirror on the side of the lost limb and asks the patient to look at the reflection. "If they look inside the mirror they see the reflection of their normal hand and it looks as if you have given them their phantom back," he said.

Patients frequently comp that their phantom arm has become curled up into a painful position and Professor Ramachandran asks them to put their intact arm into the same position and then to uncurl it so that it becomes normal again.

"If the phantom is in a painful 'cramped' position, we find that merely viewing the reflection of the normal hand in a mirror causes the phantom hand to spring to life and start moving. For many the pain and cramping is instantly relieved."

Professor Ramachandran has also tried mirror therapy on "neglect syndrome" patients who have suffered a stroke or some sort of brain damage to one half of the brain, which causes them to be oblivious to

one side of their visual field. The mirror treatment could help scientists to unravel some of the complex mysteries of the brain, he said. "This has implications for understanding how the brain handles space and about objects in the world are

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TOSHIBA

Fitness and good diet can stop your brain shrinking

EXERCISE FOR the heart may ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE also prevent the onset of senile dementia in later life, according to scientists who have found that the same risk factors associated with a high-

shrinking brain. Patients with Alzheimer's disease show rapid shrinkage atherosclerosis, smoking, high of the brain - 15 per cent a year - which is 10 times faster than occurs in normal ageing, and this might be exacerbated by

poor blood flow to the brain. Professor David Smith, the head of the department of in larger studies but, if they are pharmacology at Oxford confirmed, then they raise the University, said that people hope that preventative medimight be able to cut the cine can be applied to chances of developing Alzheimer's disease." Alzheimer's in later life if they

took up regular exercise and a healthy diet. "Several established risk factors for vascular diseases, such as heart disease er chance of cardiovascular and stroke, might also be posdisease could also cause a sible risk factors for Alzheimer's disease.

"The risk factors include cholesterol, previous heart attacks and atrial fibrillation [heart flutter]," Professor Smith said.

"These epidemiological associations need to be confirmed

In Britain there are between

this is expected to double withthe ageing population, Professor Smith told the British As-

brain is linked with an increase in the risk of brain shrinkage, it may be possible to concentrate on preventive strategies that can lower the incidence of Alzheimer's.

sociation.

an inevitable part of ageing and that it might be modified by environmental factors,

"The striking success of pre-

ventative medicine, such as the cessation of smoking, lowering blood cholesterol and by dementia."

600,000 and 800,000 people who diet or changes in lifestyle in suffer from Alzheimer's, and lowering the incidence of heart disease and stroke is one of the in the next 30 years because of major achievements of modern

to bu

"If a proportion of those who develop Alzheimer's dis-If a poor blood flow to the ease do so because of exposure to the same risk factors, then similar measures could be tested to see if they also reduce the incidence of Alzheimer's disease," Professor Smith said.

"People should be aware that Alzheimer's disease is not taken, it will be necessary to carry out long and expensive clinical trials in several thousand subjects to see whether modification of one or more of these risk factors can influence the development of

Unease at use of Magic chance to modified crops beat the sceptic

BRITISH SCIENTISTS would oppose the cultivation of some genetically modified (GM) crops that have already been grown in the United States for four years, a senior government adviser said yesterday.

member of the Advisory Committee on Releases to the lar to plant species and not Environment, said that crops engineered to be resistant to attacking viruses could eventually lead to "superweeds" through the transfer of the resistance genes to wild

His views reflect the gulf between the regulations in the US and Europe - but world trade rules could lead the US to insist that such crops are effects of viruses on plants. approved in Britain, despite scientific opposition.

transgenic squash, a melon- plants. I don't think a UK like plant, developed by Upjohn Agrochemicals. It release a virus-resistant plant contains genes making it unless we really knew about millennium, said nobody had resistant to a virus that the role of the virus," he said.

infects watermelons and to another that attacks courgettes. It was passed for sale in 1994 because US government scientists assume that Professor Alan Gray, a plant viruses, which attack leaves and roots, are particu-

> Such plants are a "secondgeneration" form of GM crop. Most of the "first generation" are resistant to artificial fertilisers rather than natural

But Professor Gray, based at the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, said that ecologists still knew too little about the "Ecologists have neglected

viruses because they're so The US approval covers a hard to find and detect in regulatory committee would

and scourge of the paranormal, has challenged 13 Britons to prove they have supernatural powers and win his prize of \$1m (£660,000).

Mr Randi, who has been a constant thorn in the side of Yuri Gelier and others who claim extraordinary powers, said that 13 individuals from Britain are competing for the money he has offered to the first person demonstrating paranormal gifts under scien-tifically controlled conditions. One man claims to be a

human magnet who can pick up paperclips with his forehead, another says he can rewrite the works of Isaac Newton and a third is a woman who claims she can read other people's minds.

Mr Randi, who took part in a session at the British Association on the rise of the paranormal at the end of the been able to convince him sci-

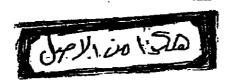
JAMES RANDI, the magician PARANORMAL POWER



James Randi: Certain he wili keep his prize money

entifically of paranormal powers and he believes his money will be safe. "Geller says he does his spoon bending by divine means. I do it by tricks. If he's doing it by divine means then he's doing it the hard

REPORTS FROM CARDIFF BY STEVE CONNOR AND CHARLES ARTHUR



de industry



THE INDEPENDENT

Failing rail firms may lose franchise

A CRACKDOWN on privatised By Andrew GRICE rail operators whose passengers suffer poor standards of service is to be announced by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, in the next few

The rail regulators will be ordered to intervene more speedily when trains are repeatedly cancelled or late and the rail companies may face instant fines of at least £1m. At present, they are served

Political Editor

notice that they will be penalised if they do not meet their licence conditions over the following four weeks.

As a last resort, operators who persistently let down their passengers will lose their franchises before they come up for

Mr Prescott has ordered his officials to find ways of beefing

up the existing regulatory regime that would not require legislation, after failing to win a promise from Tony Blair that his plans to set up a powerful

strategic rail authority would be included in the Queen's Speech in November. The Government's programme will be discussed tomorrow at Chequers, to which Mr Blair has summoned the Cabinet for a one-

day strategy session. Yesterday, Mr Prescott said

adopt with regard to the railways which are now under full consideration," he said. Ministers said Mr Prescott of measures to saleguard pas-

sengers, which he may unveil at the Labour Party conference at the end of this month. He is alarmed by persistent

there were "quite a lot of evidence that the rail operators things" he could do without are letting down their cus-

Last month, the official pas-There are measures I can senger watchdog attacked the "truly dreadful performance" by some companies in the first full year since privatisation, was drawing up a new package and the regulatory body revealed that punctuality had declined on 48 routes and improved on only 16.

Yesterday, the Frenchowned Connex company, which

and South Central commuter routes in and around London. came under fire from MPs and to disclose bonuses of between £20,000 and £30,000 for its

directors. On his return from holiday, Mr Prescott moved to reassure Labour MPs and pressure groups worried that the White Paper on transport he unveiled in July had effectively been

provide legislative time. "I understand their concerns but they are not warranted," he passenger watchdogs for failing said, insisting that his proposals were "right on the front

> hurner" Mr Prescott insisted that the Government would press ahead with the plan for setting up the rail authority and letting local authorities charge molevy a charge on workplace

operates the South Eastern shelved by Mr Blair's refusal to parking places. "I am more and South Central commuter provide legislative time. "I until than satisfied that we are on our way to achieving it and working with a Prime Minister who fully believes in it," he said.

Government sources sug gested that Mr Blair was happy to see the crackdown on the rai companies go ahead but ad mitted that he was cautious about the introduction of mea sures to penalise motorists in torists for driving into cities and the run-up to the next general



William Hague, flanked by Cecil Parkinson, Tory party chairman, and Peter Lilley, Deputy Leader, at the meeting yesterday

Hague makes return to bonding ways

THE GAME is Bond, Tory Bond By Paul Waugh One year after William Hague's inaugural "brain-storming and bonding" session for his party, the Conservatives were at it again yesterday, learning to love each other and the electorate in another countrycasual charm offensive.

Many swapping their Westminster pinstripes for multi, the Shadow Cabinet went on an awayday "strategy" meeting in a hotel in deepest Buckinghamshire, in an attempt to sharpen their attacks on the Government and develop their

Much has happened since the Tories last staged a similar C&A catalogue shoot in Eastbourne, including the Prime Minister's decision to cut his Caesar haircut, the Formula One tobacco advertising row, "Drapergate" and the haemorrhaging of thousands of jobs by manufacturing industry.

Yet one political fact that has not changed is the Tories' poor fortune in the opinion polls. with the party scarcely denting Tony Blair's popularity.

However, after his bold decision to call a snap referendum on Europe among party mem-bers, the Toryleader arrived at Ancram, the incoming chair Hartwell House Hotel yester- man, was definitely not likely to tention that stems from what tar rendition of Bridge over

Political Correspondent

"coup de théâtre". As he hac just come from Lord Rother mere's funeral, Mr Hague coulc hardly have been expected to be wearing a beach shirt and shorts, but he immediately flung off the jacket of his som bre blue suit to join his col leagues for a photo-opportunity around the brain-storming

His tie loosened and his face bright with the look of a marwho is finally setting the polit ical agenda rather than following it, a rejuvenated Mr Hague rallied his troops at their first "bonding" session of the day with his plans to carry the antieuro message across the coun try in the next three weeks before the party conference.

As much as the focus group€ may tell them to offer a more relaxed image, the Tories know that it is going to take more than a pair of nice slacks and choice knitwear to make themselves electable again.

However, the party is belatedly learning that presentation is important. Relieved aides confided that Michae John Voos his aide described as a daring Troubled Water". Phew.

Priest jailed for charging to bury stillborn babies

A PRIEST WHO deceived griev- BY RACHEL CROFTS ing parishioners by overjailed yesterday for nine months after admitting 11 offences of false accounting.

The Rev Roy Hibbert even charged distraught parents to bury stillborn babies when the service should have been provided by the church free, Woiverhampton Crown Court in 1986. Nigel Rumfitt QC, for of Newport, Shropshire, Judge Frank Chapman told him: "You would not dream of stealing from someone's purse or home or car, but the result of your actions is just the same." But he told the 68-year-old worked "selflessly" for 42 needs of others before his own". The priest's recent Even ordained priests can fall victim to temptation."

The well-respected Angli-can dean was arrested after tens of thousands of pounds."

charging for funerals was members of his flock in the churches of St Nicholas, Newport, St Michael's, Chetwynd, and All Saints, Forton, said they were being overcharged for weddings and funerals. The court was told how Hib-

was told. Sentencing Hibbert, the prosecution, said Hibbert overcharged for weddings and funerals, where he would make parishioners pay "vicar's extras" and lied to the diocese about his earnings from congregation contributions. Because the priest clergyman he believed he had under-declared his annual earnings, he was awarded years, "always putting the extra income from church funds. "He was engaged in a large-scale fraud, cheating not actions were a stain on his only the church itself but the long and good career, adding: parishioners and those lay parishioners who helped with the administration of the

bert, who has two children, began defrauding the church

Roy Hibbert: Admitted 11 false accounting offences

prosecution had alleged Hibbert had defrauded the diocese of £50,000 but yeslikely to be around £30,000.

terday Judge Chapman said he accepted the figure was more After the hearing, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Keith Sutton, said: "It is trag-

ic that a priest who has been

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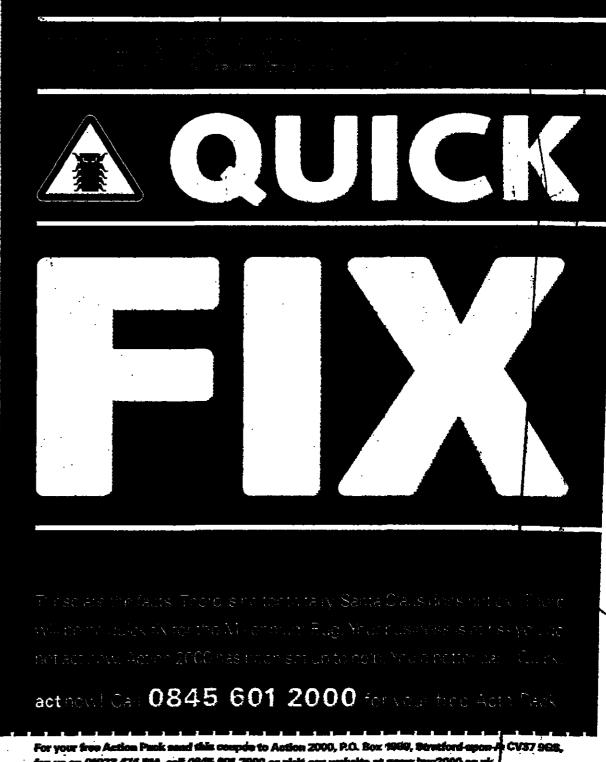
highly regarded in the parishes he has served should have his ... ministry come to an end in such a regrettable manner." A statement on behalf of the bishop said the diocese had put into place new accountancy procedures to

they served. It added: "Fortunately, such an incident as this is extremely rare and we are resolved to ensure the church is able to handle its financial affairs in a manner in which the public can have confidence."

protect clergy and parishes

One of Hibbert's victims, Louisa Talbot, of Newport, Shropshire, was duped twice, paying £118 for her first wedding, which should have cost £37 and, when that marriage failed, a further £320 for what should have been a £40 blessing with her second husband.

Yesterday she said: "Who can you trust if you can't trust your vicar, if you can't trust the person who is next to godliness in your eyes?"



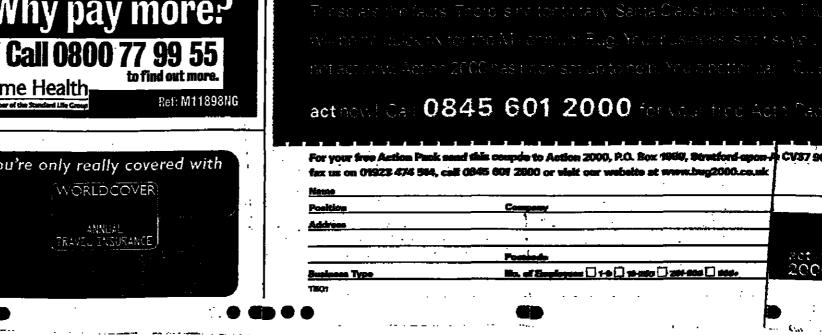


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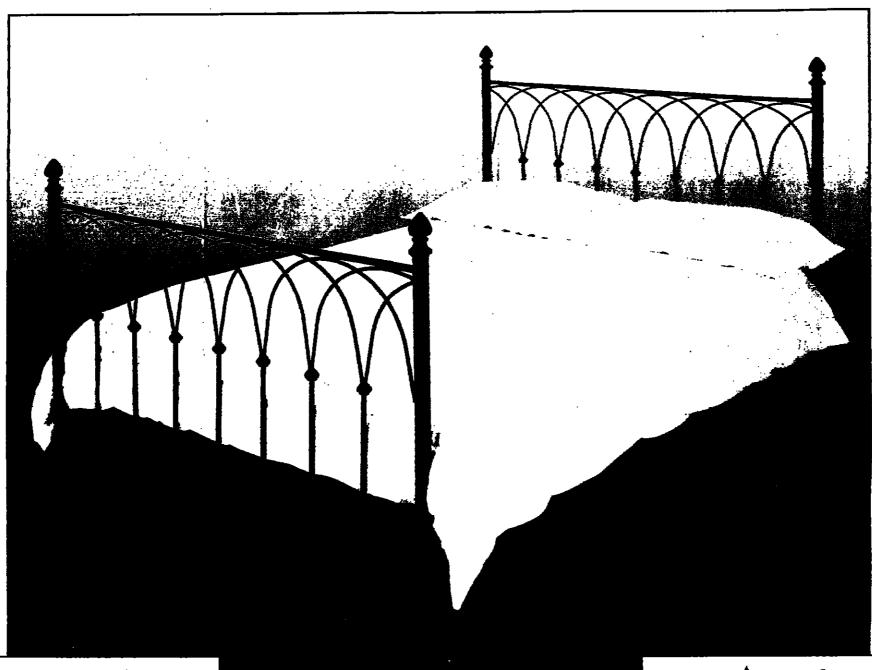
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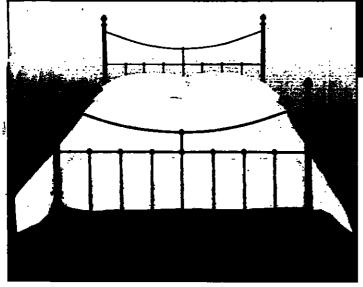
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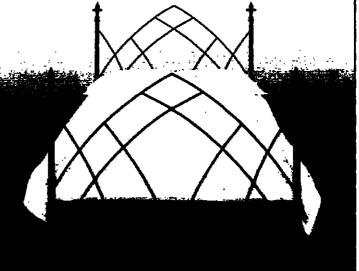
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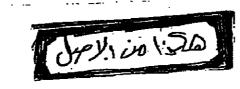
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PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin spent By PHIL REEVES another day yesterday brooding in Moscow and over what to do next in his stand-off with parliament, as food and fuel shortages and panic-buying gathered momentum across the country.

Leaderless, bankrupt and bewildered, Russia waited for that loosely coalesced around news of the President's plans, amid new warnings that deepening economic misery could turn into unrest.

The latest of these comes from the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Alexei II.

Potato crisis strains morale

By Helen Womack in Moscow

"WE WILL survive as long as we have potatoes," is a belief to which long-suffering Russians hold. They were clinging to it last week as the rouble plunged, as queues outside banks and stores lengthened, as 19th-century institutions such as pawnshop came back into fashion. True, during the Second World War, starving people in Leningrad licked glue from wallpaper. But for Russians in ime, having potatoes has been the bottom line.

Now comes the bad news. On top of financial and political chaos, there is a crisis in the fields. August 1998 was an unusually rainy month and the potato harvest in European Russia is a disaster. If there is a point at which Russian patience expires, it might be here.

The road that runs out of Moscow southwest towards Ryazan is usually lined at this time of year with villagers selling potatoes from buckets. In the past two or three years, citydwellers have got used to wellstocked if pricey shops and grown lazy at digging at their dachas or planted flowers there instead. They have known that they could always buy the staple potato from these small-

But yesterday, on a glorious day of "women's summer", as Russians call the short period of bright weather that returns in September, the villagers were mostly sitting tight inside their fairy-tale wooden houses. ANNA BAKHEN in St Petersburg

who has consistently supported Mr Yeltsin, and the ruling élite of politicians and oligarchs him during better days. "The worst thing that the current political crisis could bring is civil war, for surely blood always divides." the cleric said.

Similar fears were expressed by the head of the

Communists, Gennady Zyng-anov, who warned that there could be a social explosion if Mr Yeltsin decides to nominate Viktor Chernomyrdin for a third, final time, after the premier's decisive rejection by the State Duma on Monday.

If Mr Chernomyrdin loses again, and the Duma is disbanded, then there would be trouble, he warned. "To disband the Duma means to disband the Russian Federation. I am afraid we will have uprisings throughout Russia.

nomyrdin, and nominate a compromise candidate, although there are signs that he may find it hard to recruit a leader who is both acceptable to the Duma and willing to grasp what

amounts to a poisoned chalice. The Communists and the liberal Yabloko party both would vote for Yevgeny Primakov, the foreign minister, but yesterday that he did not want the job. Similar sentiments came from

Pressure is growing on Mr the other favourite, Yuri Yeltsin to abandon Mr Cher- Luzhkov, the mayor of Moscow. Luzhkov, the mayor of Moscow.

As the deadlock drags on, shelves are emptying as Russians snap up survival food like flour, oil, butter, canned fish and sugar. There are shortages of petrol and imported goods. Kaliningrad, between Poland

and Lithuania, yesterday declared "a state of emergency" and announced that it would take responsibility for political and economic issues, although it toned this down after Moscow protested that it was illegal.

As Russia unraveis, tragedy is interrupted by the bizarre. Overworked prosecutors in Moscow have been asking questions about the fate of a life sized cake of Lenin, which was displayed at an art gallery, and

eventually eaten by guests.

And spare a thought for the British - 139 British companies yesterday opened a trade fair in St Petersburg. "There is a market for everything, whether there is a crisis or not," said Dave Chapman, from the Gerome Group, a Derby-based

fabrics company. Although he had only one potential Russian customer, he said that he was "still optimistic".

MUCH

FISH IS

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FISH

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100%

50%

AVERAGE

FINGER?

Not so, Russian onlookers. Marina Grigoryeva, a 46-year-old paediatrician, said: "Do these people really think it is appropriate selling computers when all some people can afford with their monthly salaries is a pack of cigarettes?" Three weeks ago her monthly salary was worth £50; now it is worth only £11.

Leading article, Review, page 3



The peasant market at Nikitpiled high with spuds, was selling nothing more than the last they were not for sale. of the watermelons brought up from the south by Azeri traders. At Myachkovo, women were offering the district's sweet onions and Chinesemanufactured bath towels with the face of Leonardo DiCaprio. But again there were no potatoes, so vital because they can

be stored. At Bronitsa, I spotskoe, which should have been ted an old man pulling a cart with two sacks of potatoes. But

"I'm sorry, my dear," said summer for potatoes. They ground is very wet and they are rotting. These two sacks are dry enough to keep, though. This will be our food for winter."

were digging up potatoes but only for themselves.

"They're our one asset and even our little crop is bad be- the Russian winter, however, cause of the weather, because one of the most disturbing Alexei Fyodorovich, "but these we have no fertiliser," said are for my family. It's been a bad Valentina Sergeyevna, who used to work on the Path of Lenin collective farm and now in retirement tills her own small piece of land. Her sevenyear-old granddaughter, Masha

school because she did not have any shoes to wear.

A month before the onset of down by the River Nishenka (Poor Woman) just outside Denezhnikova (Money) village. Muscovites have been worrying there were reports of military

gion. Television calmed their fears by saying that conscripts were only helping the collective farmers to bring in the potato harvest. But the soldiers I

and carrots for themselves Believe it or not, these men were from the elite Dzerhzhinsky Division of Interior about a possible coup since Ministry troops, who would be in the front line trying to restore In the fields nearby, people squatted in a rut, missing movements in the Moscow re- law and order if food riots broke

out on the streets of Moscow. "We have been given permission to root in these fields for our own stocks," said Mikhail Kravchuk, 20, who desights was a sea of khaki tents found were picking potatoes cided to stay on in the army as a contract officer after finishing his military service because there was no work for him in his native Perm. "The army is being cut back. Nobody owes a living any more. We have to look

Truckers to gain 48-hour week as blockades bite

to win an average 48-hour working week as part of a package of Europe-wide measures that emerged as a protest by truckers disrupted continental ports and borders yesterday.

Drafts of a deal to extend the controversial Working Time Directive to 3.5 million drivers also meets key trade-union dein Brussels and JOHN LICHFIELD in Paris

as loading, cleaning and maintaining vehicles, and conducting safety checks, within the 48-hour limit. The drivers will gain a guaranteed minimum of four weeks' annual holiday.

mands by including tasks such News of the impending

Haulage Association, which called on the European Commission not to "cave in to the industrial action".

The biggest demonstrations were in France and, while they did not match the blockages of to stop truck traffic and slow the past two winters, there cars, at exits from the ports of were big tail-backs of lorries on Dieppe and Ouistreham, in the Spanish, Italian, Belgian Normandy; 400 trucks were reand Luxembourg borders. ported to be queuing or parked

atively unscathed. French lorry drivers handed out leaflets in Calais but made no attempt to block the Channel Tunnel terminal or ports.

There were "filter barriers",

on the French side of the Mont Blanc tunnel. At Biriatou, on the Franco-Spanish border, a French driver, prevented from driving into Spain, swung his truck across the road and a sixmile jam built before the road was cleared. Traffic on roads

within France was normal. Transport workers and junior hospital doctors have been

affecting most other workers. But on 18 September employers and unions hope to agree a deal, which will be the basis of a European directive laying down conditions in EU countries. Yesterday the European Commission said that if the two sides fail to agree, it will bring forward its own proposals.

along similar lines, by 30 Sep-

they already face high fuel and excise costs and want new measures to stop continental truck drivers from blockading

Last night the Road Haulage Association said it would "be concerned at measures which reduce further the flexibility of

IN BRIEF

UN chief sees the official China

THE UNITED NATIONS High Commissioner for Human Rights had said she wanted to meet a "wide range" of Chinese on her 10-day visit to China, but an official suggested yesterday that Mary Robinson was unlikely to see any dissidents. On the third day of her trip, Ms Robinson met members of the women's federation and the official in charge of policy towards ethnic minorities. The foreign ministry spokesman, Zhu Bangzao, said Ms Robinson would go on to meet officials, government-backed groups and academics, and travel to Tibet and Shanghai.

Congo peace talks derailed

CONGO PEACE talks attended by seven African presidents were derailed when rebels stormed out of the meeting at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, complaining they had been snubbed and mistreated. A draft of a ceasefire pact that the presidents had been expected to sign was withdrawn as the leaders bickered over treatment of the rebels.

Fourteen hurt in Macau bombs

BOMES BLAMED on gangsters exploded yesterday in the Portuguese enclave of Macau, wounding four senior police officers and ten journalists. The two bomb blasts were the worst in recent years, and the first to involve journalists.

Nigeria frees 20 Ogoni activists A NIGERIAN court in the city of Port Harcourt has freed 20 Ogoni activists detained since 1994 on charges of murdering four pro-government chiefs. The youths, freed on Monday, faced the same charge for which the author

Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight others were executed in 1995.

PAUL SPIKE

'If the Republicans reclaim the White House in 2000, I suspect Blair's "I'm sorry" will be answered with a very cold "Excuse me"

----WEDNESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4------

Jobless blow to Judge suspended for

By IMRE KARACS

UNLESS HE wins the elections at the end of the month, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's promise to bring German unemployment below 4 million will not be realised. Yesterday was his last chance, with the publication of figures for August, and he was 95,000 over the limit.

There was, however, a fall in the last summer month, and the Chancellor saw in this the vindication of his policies. "The positive development has stabilised," he said. "I expect that in the coming month the number of unemployed will be below 4 million and in the full year we will have fewer people

out of work than in 1997." That would no doubt be hailed as a great achievement, although perhaps not as sweeping as he had anticipated. There was a point in his current term of office when Mr Kohl had promised to halve the number of jobless by the year 2000. Since then he has proceeded nearly to double it.

Unfortunately for Mr Kohl, all his undoubted successes are seen in the light of the various promises he has made during his long career.



Kohl: Promises, promises

ahead, the number of iobless has fallen for eight months in succession in the west, and for three months in a row in the east. But some of these new jobs can all too directly be credited to the Chancellor and his election campaign. Vast sums have been pumped into make-work schemes in recent months in a frantic effort to get below the magic 4 million.

As Bernhard Jagoda, the head of the Federal Labour Office, put it: "The situation has improved slightly but the recent increase in employment in the east is attributed to the unusually strong expansion of The economy is powering job-creation schemes."

Kohl campaign exposing corruption

nior detectives have been suspended and placed under investigation in Toulon.

Their alleged crime? To have leaked to the press details of investigations of corruption among local politicians, including officials at the National Front-controlled town hall.

Their real crime? To have challenged the cosy relationships between politicians (of left, right and far-right), organised crime and the judiciary which have made the Toulon area a byword for intrigue and corruption.

There seems little doubt that Judge Albert Lévy, substitute chief prosecutor in Toulon, is technically guilty. He was the subject of a six-month investigation by his own colleagues using bugging devices and concealed body microphones - to prove that he was leaking details of his cases to the press.

Leaking information on a criminal investigation is a serious offence, but one committed by nearly all publicityconscious prosecutors and investigating judges in France. If the law was to be applied uniformly, awkward questions would have to be asked of scores

A STATE prosecutor and two se- By JOHN LICHFIELD

of magistrates all over the country, including those in charge of the year-old investigation of the death of Diana, Princess of

A book by two French journalists quotes verbatim from witness statements made to Judge Hervé Stéphan, the man in charge of the Diana inquiry. No official action was taken.

This is precisely the accusation made against Mr Levy: the leaking of witness statements to a local journalist, Claude Ardid, of the newspaper Nice-Matin. who has also been placed under investigation. The investigating judge brought in from Paris to examine the evident even accused Mr Lévy of being mentally unstable because he "saw fascists everywhere in Toulon". Mr Lévy's imagination may not be so fevered as all that: Toulon is one of five towns controlled by the far-right National Front, and has long had a reputation

tolerant towns in France. The accused judge's lawyer, Alain Jakubowicz, said the case was "pure delirium ... A com-

as one of the most racially in-

plete injustice. Even if the facts are proven, everyone knows that witness statements circulate everywhere ... This is a set-

time of scores".

Mr Lévy, a brisk-looking man with metal-rimmed spectacles and a neat moustache, had made several attacks on what he called the "mafia politicians" of the Toulon area. He was especially hostile to the National Front. But he also criticised the passivity of his own colleagues, especially what he called the "nonchalance" of the judicial investigation into the

murder of a local MP, Yann Piat. The National Front MP who defected to the centre-right, was shot while investigating links between politics and crime. A gang of local hoodhims was convicted of her murder this year, but it remains open to question whether gang members could have acted alone.

The information leaked to Mr Ardid concerned alleged kick-backs to Toulon town hall for the letting of contracts for school meals. The journalist published a verbatim account of the evidence given to Mr Lévy by Serge Catalano, a local businessman and former president of the town's football club.

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It's a family thing

Amnesty condemns Israelis and Palestinians for rights abuses

BY ROBERT FISK in Beirut

TORTURE AND death in custody, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial, executions and unfair trials by both Israelis and Palestinians, five years after the Oslo Agreement, could there be a more wretched indictment of the "peace" between Israel and the PLO than the report Amnesty International publishes this morning?

So rapidly are human rights being sacrificed in Israel and the West Bank - in the hopeless search for a "security" that cannot be guaranteed by policemen – that the report was too late to record the most recent atrocities: two Palestinians shot by a PLO firing squad for murder last week, and the apparent beating to death by Yasser Arafat's henchmen of Hussein Ghali, who called at a Gaza police station to make a complaint. But it is impossible to deny Amnesty's plague-onboth-their-houses catalogue of abuse – or its implications.

"In a spiral of violence," the

report states, "killings of Palestinians by Israeli security services or settlers have led to suicide bombings and the deaths of Israeli civilians. These have led to waves of arbitrary arrests, incommunicado detention, torture and unfair trials. The Palestine population have been the main victims of such violations ... the Occupied Territories have become a land of barriers, mostly erected by Israeli security services, between town and town and village and village ..." The protection of human rights, Amnesty concludes, must be at the heart of -where the PLO now uses the

all future policies and accords. Some hope. As Amnesty admits, the five years since Oslo have been marked by a great increase in the number of Israeli civilians killed by armed Palestinian groups – more than 100 Israelis have died in suicide



A pressure group in Jerusalem uses an Israeli actor to show the "shabeh" torture method reportedly used by Israeli security forces AP

killed by Israeli civilians, some of them members of the violent Jewish Kach movement. After handing over to the Palestinian authority detention centres in the centre of West Bank cities same tortures against its own civilians that the Israelis used before the withdrawal - Israel has now built new prisons in West Bank areas still under occupation, at Beit El Majnuna and Dotan.

Methods of torture by the Isattacks, and more than 45 raelis include shabeh (sleep

Palestinian civilians have been deprivation while shackled in painful positions and hooding). gambaz (being forced to squat for more than two hours). tiltul (violent shaking that has already killed one Palestinian prisoner) and khazana (imprisonment in a closet). Other according to Amnesty, include beatings, pressure on genitals and exposure to heat and cold.

"There is general acceptance by the international community that Israel has effectively legalised the use of

Torture by Yasser Arafat's Palestinian authority includes beatings, suspension from the wrists, burning with electricity and cigarettes as well as tortures learnt from the Israelis shabeh and exposure. The report says that 19 have died in Palestinian custody since Oslo - 20 if the weekend's killing is included. Most of them appear to have died during or after torture. "Security" detainees, suspected collaborators and those who have sold land to Jews appear to be routinely tortured.

Palestinian authority - monitored by a CIA Israeli team (although Amnesty does not mention this) and applauded by the US State Department have led to grossly unfair trials; a Palestinian State Security Court has undermined civil courts, and human rights activists are now brought before the former.

Extrajudicial killings by Israel include Hani Abed, a Hamas leader suspected of killing two Israeli soldiers, who was blown up in a Gaza car stration. "I saw ... a wound on Arbitrary arrests by the bomb; Fathi Shikaki, the the right side of the forehead rifle report in the near future. I bigger.

Islamic Jihad leader shot dead in Malta; and Yahya Lyash, a presumed Hamas bomb maker, killed by a boobytrapped mobile telephone. Amnesty also refers to the Israeli attempt to murder a Hamas leader in Jordan by injecting his ear with poison.

Killings by Israelis include the death of Ali Jawarish, an eight-year-old boy, in 1997. Amnesty quotes an American reporter who saw Israeli troops fire at the boy during a demon- a fair bet that Amnesty will be

and a lot of blood flow," he wrote. "Later the doctors at Mugassed Hospital and at Beit Jala told me that the child's

brain had spilt out." Two members of the Islamic Jihad. Ayman Razaina and Imad al-Araj, were shot dead by Palestinian police: Palestini-ans selling land to Israelis have been tortured to death. Ferid Bashtiti was found dead in Ramallah with his hands tied behind his back last year; a few days later, the body of another land dealer, Harbi Abu Sara, was found with bullet wounds in the head.

Carefully putting quotation marks around the word "terrorism" and "peace" - presumably because Israeli terrorists are never called terrorists, thus making the word both racist and anti-Arab -Amnesty appeals to the world to put an end to the torture and

"The acceptance by the international community of 'peace' at any price, or of a security-led agenda involving the suppression of 'terrorism' without regard for human rights, has often encouraged violations, and the international community have a crucial role to play in achieving respect for human rights by refusing to accept these violations.' Amnesty concludes its

that Israelis and Palestinians should bring detainees before fair courts, end imprisonment without trial, revoke all legislation permitting torture, end judicial killings and draw up clear firearm guidelines. Foreign governments, Amnesty says, should "use their influence" to secure the implementation of these recommendations. Since no government is prepared to put pressure on Israel and since the Palestinian authority pays little beed to such appeals, it is publishing another equally hor-

attack on Jakarta students

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARKY in Tokyo

ANTI-GOVERNMENT protesters were bayoneted early yesterday during a battle with Indonesian troops at the national parliament.

A military spokesman denied that soldiers or riot police were responsible for the bayonet attacks, but hospitals in Jakarta confirmed that two students had had emergency surgery after several hundred were evicted from the grounds of the parliament building, which they had occupied on Monday night.

It was the latest outbreak of violence in the world's fourthbiggest country, whose economy appears to be collapsing despite the support of the International Monetary Fund.

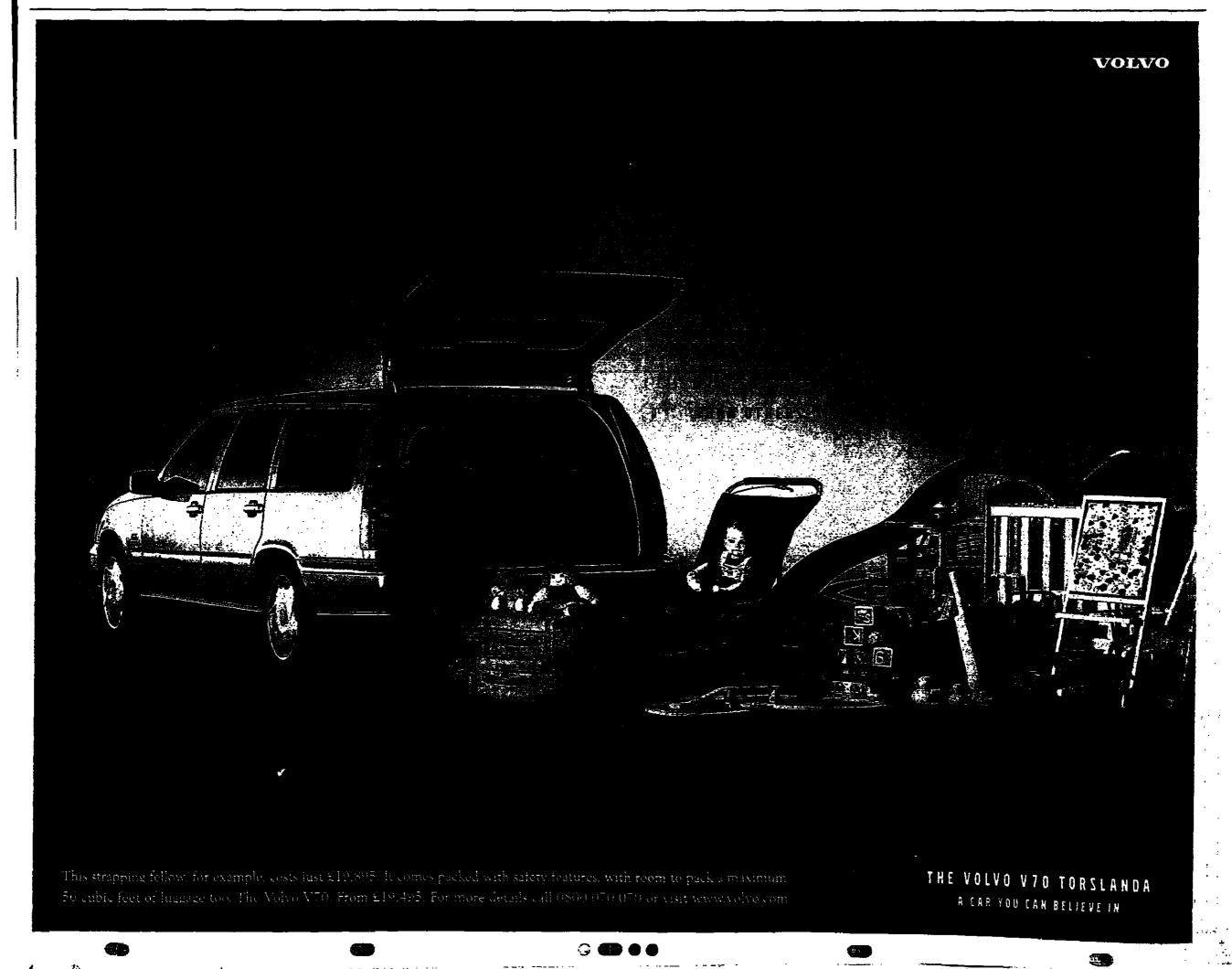
The protesters demanded the departure of the president. B J Habibie, for his failure to control rising food prices and his reluctance to sweep away the authoritarian apparatus of his predecessor. President Suharto. He resigned in May after a week-long occupation of the parliament buildings.

The students want Mr Suharto tried for allegedly embezzling billions of dollars of state funds, a charge he denied in a rare TV interview this week.

On Monday afternoon, more than a thousand students had marched on the parliament buildings and broken down the damning report with a demand gates to the compound. About 300 remained until the early hours, chanting slogans, even after troops and riot police ordered them to disperse. The injuries appear to have been inflicted at about 1.30am when the security forces fired tear gas on to the crowd and drove them out of the grounds.

Mr Habibie warned of more turmoil unless the economic problems were quickly solved. "Social unrest will prevail," he said "Crime will rise ... the chance of human rights abuses taking place will surely be

1111



THE INDIVINOR

Bayonel attacko Jakarta

Clinton tries to scupper Starr inquiry

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton mustered a counter-attack yesterday against the investigation that may lead to his impeachment. His lawyers are asking the prosecutor Kenneth Starr for advance sight of his report to Congress, so that they can send a response at the same

time as it is submitted. The report into Mr Clinton's relationship with Monica Lewinsky, and efforts to cover it up, could be released any day.

After the Labor Day holiday signalled the beginning of the political season, the President spent yesterday on the campaign trail in Maryland, and today will visit Florida to campaign for the Democrat candidate for governor. His aides say that his trip to Russia and Ireland distracted from preparations for the report's arrival, and that now is the time to get him out in front of the public.

The Clinton administration says that it should be allowed to see the report in advance, arguing that, otherwise, it will be unable to present its own version of events. "Elemental fairness dictates that we be allowed to see any 'report' you send to the House simultaneously with its transmission," the White House lawyer, David Kendall, said in a letter he wrote to Mr Starr on Monday.

The tone of Mr Kendall's letter is to denigrate the very idea of a report, a word that Mr Kendall places in inverted commas throughout. Nothing in the law, he says, "authorises your office to prepare a 'report' to the House that purports to summarise and analyse evidence". Mr Kendall says that he wants

a week to examine the report. The White House is said to be considering drawing up its own riposte to set out a different view of the arguments and facts in the Starr investigation. s hope to deflect some of the criticism and give her pro-

VOLVO

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

ammunition of their own. The White House report might be sent with Mr Starr's document to Judge Norma Holloway Johnson, Mr Kendall suggests, who has been supervising the grand jury's work

The report, which may come this week, is not being written by Mr Starr. The author is Stephen Bates, a lawyer and writer who has made a name for himself with books and articles on several controversial legal cases. He is said by those who know him to be unideological, middle-of-the-road and



low profile. His most important work to date is likely to run to about 300 pages, summarising the evidence drawn out by the grand jury. The Starr office will send the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, a letter in advance, letting him know that the report is on the way.

The scramble to deal with the report, and its legal and political implications, has also begun on Capitol Hill. There are already tussles between Democrats and Republicans over the way in which Congress will handle it. The House Judiciary Committee will handle any impeachment hearings to arise

ing today between Mr Gingrich and Richard Gephardt, the leader of the minority Democrats in the House, will try to sort out arrangements and

Henry Hyde, the Republican chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, has asked for special procedures to allow his committee to investigate the allegations. Among other things, he wants the authority to order the sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives to arrest witnesses who do not co-operate with his inquiries.

The House Judiciary Committee was also meeting yesterday to examine what the Constitution means when it speaks of "high crimes and misdemeanours" as the test for impeachment.

The report will examine whether Mr Clinton lied under oath about his relationship with Ms Lewinsky, encouraged her to lie, and obstructed investigations. But it is unclear whether he broke any laws, or whether breaking the law is a necessary condition of "high crime and misdemeanours".

Impeachment would be decided upon only after a complex procedure. Once Mr Starr has notified Congress of his intention to send a report, the House Rules Committee will draw up a resolution authorising the Judiciary Committee to subpoena witnesses and take depositions.

The Starr report would then be sent to the Judiciary Committee, and might, for a time, be limited to its members. It would determine whether to hold impeachment hearings, which could result in a recommendation of articles of impeachment against the President Then the full House would

vote on whether to confirm the impeachment, and the President would be tried by the Senate.



Hillary Clinton talking yesterday with Seth Cauman (left) and Ben Baker as the students work on computers at John Eaton Elementary School in Washington; the First Lady's visit was to highlight the importance of school modernisation to educational success

Killer of girl, 7, goes to prison for life

A MURDER CASE that has By Andrew Marshall haunted America came to an abrupt end yesterday when the defendant pleaded guilty.

Jeremy Strobmeyer took Sherrice Iverson, a seven-yearold girl, into the toilets of the Vegas, sexually molested her and killed her when she struggled. The murder, in May 1997, d the country b

in Washington

have been committed in a public place. Police said Strohmeyer confessed, saying he wanted "to experience death". He had Primadonna Casino in Las a lot of porpography, and admitted fantasising about sex with young girls, police said.

As the trial was about to get tines it became clear the age of the girl, the nature changed his not guilty plea, in a mental hospital. in A meet. Attathe weakthe interest best the attack and that it could and admitted to the marder. It

means he will get a life sen- unpleasant loose ends have the trial is over, there will be peatedly whether he under-

tence without the possibility of been left. Chief among them is strong pressure for Nevada parole. He stood with his head the case of Strohmeyer's friend bowed as the judge asked re- David Cash, who reportedly saw the crime but did not stop stood that he would never be it or report it. He has not been released. He said he did. The charged because Nevada has defence had been prepared to no "Good Samaritan" law, but argue in mitigation that his statements - that

and other states to enact Good

■ Police investigating the killing of six people in three separate incidents in Denver on Monday arrested a teenager yesterday. "We ... are wanting Strohmeyer was a deeply dis- Strohmeyer was a friend of his to find out if he knows anything turbed person, whose father is . and a good person, and that he . about this, homicide and if he in prison and whose mother is . fall no recognition that he . shout this position is did not know the girl - have anything, was," a police

Female pitcher strikes out in a man's world

AMERICAN TIMES DULUTH,

MINNESOTA

ALL IS just as it should be on this late summer evening at Wade Stadium in Duluth, a port city in north-eastern Minnesota on the shores of Lake Superior. The local minor league baseball team, the Duluth Dukes, is preparing to take on Thunder Bay from across the border in Ontario, Canada. Fans, with beer and hot dogs, are filling the stands and the sun casts its still-warm rays on the impossibly green infield.

Nowhere could you more easily experience the gentle ituals of the game they still all the national pastime than ere. Before the first pitch, we se for the national anthems d the United States and, on ths day, of Canada as well. Ten, one by one, the players ar introduced, to gentle ripples of applause. But then comes this: "For the Duluth Dutes, please welcome Ila Boniers." And the bleachers

Ald so it goes for Ms Borders hese days. Such is her celebrity that 60 Minutes, this country's most watched television show, has just done a segment on her. Japanese television was here two weeks ago, as were CNN and Newsorek magazine

The attention does not please her. In fact, she wishes we would all go away. But that, she knows perfectly well, is not going to happen. Because, at just 23 years old, this slim Californian with flowing ponytail is the first woman to play in men's professional

It has not been an easy road. Ila was 10 when she first revealed her passion to her father. An insurance salesman, Phil Borders encour-

O TORSLANDA

r Hintelit



aged his daughter, practising that not every owner would with her from 6am until noon every free day he had. Slowly her dream materialised. She played in the men's teams at school, then at college and now, at last, in the professional leagues. But always it has been a battle. College, she admits, was "heli on earth". Male team-mates would sometimes throw balls, and

even bats, straight at her face. Never, though, has Ila let go. "My philosophy is you keep going until you know personally that you're done. It's just something that will come to me," she explained in a pre-game interview. It is not a moment that has arrived yet. "You've got to believe in yourself, otherwise

they will tear you down." From her team-mates now, she has won only support. "They see me as another player out on the field, not as a

The team owner, Jim Wadley, bought her from the St Paul franchise - which belongs, like Duluth, to the Northern League - in part because he has a daughter who is set on becoming a wrestler. "I empathise with her," Wadley said, while admitting

that I am going to play badly

have bought her. But even in Duluth, Ila has attracted controversy. Baseball is a boys' game, always has been, if not a good of boys' game. There was suspicion that Duluth had picked her as opening pitcher simply to raise ticket sales. "I would say about three of

the managers in the league hate my guts," she admits. With only eight teams in the league, that seems like a bad start. One of them wrote to Wadley at the start of the season to voice his disgust. "He basically said that having a girl demeans the game and he didn't want a girl pitching to his players," Ila remembers. "But after the game he came

up to me and said, 'great job'." She has had trouble with some of the fans too, including those who have taken their adoration for her too far. Such as the woman who leaned over the fence one day and snipped a length from her ponytail. And a few have been openly hostile. Always, she says, they are women. "It has been all women. Either they say that I am in this team because I think women's sports

aren't good enough or they say

and let women down The politics of her achievement are of no interest to her. however. "I am not doing this to make a statement. I'm out here because I love the game and nothing else."

And Ila is good. While she

may not throw terribly fast – she clocks about 80mph against 90mph for the guys her left-handed balls are foxy. In mid-season she managed two no-score six-inning stretches in a row. Nobody else on the side has done that all

What, however, is Ila Border's most formidable weapon? It is her femininity. Quite simply, when guys who are often twice her weight and strength face her with the bat on home plate, they panic. Jay Ward, the coach for Thunder Bay, has seen it over and over again. "It is the macho thing. They go out there ter-rified. They can't go back to the locker room and tell the guys that a girl struck them out Some of them have got over that now, but others haven't. And they are the ones she gets out, every time."

DAVID USBORNE

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

G7 meeting likely to be postponed

THE PLANNED London meeting of G7 finance ministry officials to discuss the fall-out from the Russian crisis is likely to be postponed until Monday, according to a government official. The official said a number of countries were experiencing "logistical problems" with the proposed meeting on Saturday, called to discuss recent economic

"It now looks as if the meeting will go ahead on Monday, although Saturday remains a possibility", a spokesman



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said. He added that a final decision will be made by today. The meeting takes place ahead of the International Monetary Fund's annual meeting in Washington next month, where Chancellor Gordon Brown (left) will play a key part in the debate over how the rich Western nations should react to the Russian

Charter shares plunge

SHARES OF Charter the engineering group plunged 13 per cent to 463.5p, yesterday after analysts sharply downgraded profit forecasts for the full year. They now forecast a drop of 5-10 per cent to less than £90m. Turnove in the six months to 30 June was up 25 per cent in the six months to 30 June, and profits from the core welding and railtrack businesses were up 5 per cent. But net interest on the £378m Charter paid for Howden the air and gas ngineers last year more than offset increased earnings, and pre-tax profits fell by 10 per cent to £44.7m, including a £3.2m hit from the strength of sterling. Chairman Nigel Smith remains optimistic about the second half when Howden should contribute strongly, but the company has substantial activities in Southeast Asia to support.

Diageo pays \$178m for Heinz unit

DIAGEO, the food and drinks group is paying \$178m for the bakery products division of food group H.J. Heinz. The deal is being conducted through Diageo's Pillsbury subsidiary which includes the Green Giant and Old El Paso brands. Heinz Bakery has a turnover of \$200 million and specialises in frozen unbaked bagels and frozen unbaked bread dough. Heniz yesterday reported first quarter operating income of \$213m on sales of \$2.3bn. Operating income was reduced by \$14m due to currency effects.

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FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NIKKEL
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5280	7900	14700
5190	7700	14300
5080		
WIFMI	7500 W T F M T	3900 W T F M T
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ndex	Close	Change	Character(%)	52 wk blgh	2 wk low Yi	
TSE 100	5344_20	-2.80	-0.05	6183.70	4382.80	3.63
TSE 250	4804.50	57,40	1.21	5970.90	4428.30	4.29
TSE 350	2554.20	4 <u>.30</u>	0.17	2969.10	2141.80	3.75
TSE All Share	2475.21	5.02	0.20	2885.52	2106.59	3.76
TSE SmallCap	2102.20	17.30	0.83	2793.80	2044.80	3.93
TSE Fledgiing	1173.30	8.10	0.70	1517.10	1140.20	4.30
TSE ALM	881,20	-1.50	-0.17	1146.90	862.80	1.44
TSE EBLOC 100	937.66	25 <u>.29</u>	2.77		***	
Dow Jones	7866.82	228.37	2.99	9367.84	6971.32	1.89
Vikkei	14913,49	123.43	0.84	18775.08	13664.74	1.02
lang Seng	8189,25	112,49	1,39	15242.65	6544.79	5.01
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INTEREST RATES

SHORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND
7.552 7.536	5.53	5.32
7.528 W T F M T	5.31 W T F M T	5.28 W T F M T

MK	MONEY MARKET RATES) YIELD	5
Index	3 mouth	Yr chg	1 Wear	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Tr chg
UK	7.56	0.25	7.31	-0.25	5.35	-1.59	5.05	-1.85
US	5.59	-0.13	5.47	-0.59	5.02	-1.30	5.33	-1.26
Japan	0.62	0.05_	0.61	-0,04	1,30	-0.92	1.88	-1,02
60000	246	0.10	3 63	0.01	4.74	1.5	E 06	1.70

CURRENCIES

	DMA/E	¥/£
1.670	2.94	231
1.667	2.68	221
7.654 W T F M T	2.65 W T F M T	216 W T F M T
POUND	on Yr Ago as	DOLLAR Sem Grant Yr Ac

1	Dollar	1.6580	-1.09c	1.5835	Sterling	0.6031	+0.39p	0,631
							1q80.0+	
							+¥0.27	
ı	E landan	102.00	A 50	100 10	C Index	110 20	10 E0	106 3/

OTHER INDICATORS

·			Yr Ago					
Brent Oil (\$) Gold (\$) Silver (\$)	12.61	0.02	18.08	GDP	115.40	2.60	112.48	Sept
Gold (S)	286.05	-2.50	321.95	RPI	163.00	3.50	157.49	Sept
Silver (\$)	5.01	-0.03	4.72	Base	Rates	7.50	7.00	

<u>Japan (yen)</u>

Malaysia (ringgits)

SOURCE BLOOMBERG

Rates for indication purposes only

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	_		
Australia (S)	2.6966	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.3
Austria (schillings)	19.56	Netherlands (guilders)	3,140
Belgium (francs)	57.49	New Zealand (S)	3.094
Canada (\$)	2.4609	Norway (krone)	12.5
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8191	Portugal (escudos)	283.0
Denmark (krone)	10.67	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6,029
Finland (markka)	8.5207	Singapore (\$)	2,722
France (francs)	9.3302	Spain (pesetas)	235.8
Germany (marks)	2.7939	South Africa (rands)	9.775
Greece (drachma)	478.15	Sweden (krone)	12.9
Hong Kong (\$)	12,44	Switzerland (francs)	2,288
Ireland (punts)	1.1078	Thaliand (bahts)	61.1
Indian (rupees)	64.74	Turkey (lirasi)	44064
israel (shekels)	5.8816	USA (S)	1.617
L color	2762		

214.72

5.9702

World markets rally as Bank ponders rates cut

THE BANK of England's Monetary Policy Committee meets today to decide BY LEA PATERSON the next move in UK interest rates as world markets rallied on the hope of

lower rates in the US. Wall Street opened up sharply higher as US traders, who were on holiday on Monday, digested weekend comments hinting at lower rates by Alan Greenspan, Federal Reserve chairman. At midday, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 213.66 points, or 2.8 per cent, at 7,854.91 after Mr Greenspan hinted that US interest rates could fall if the domestic economy slowed.

In London, the market saw some profit-taking after Monday's 180-point rise. The FTSE 100 closed down 2.8

points at 5344.2, although it was up as much as 52.8 points earlier in the day. Sterling continued to lose ground against the mark, closing down 1.5

pfennigs at DM2.864, a 12-month low,

despite the release of better-thanexpected UK economic data. Elsewhere in Europe, stock markets continued to rally. French stocks ended up 2.93 per cent, while in Frank-ye furt, the Xetra DAX closed up with gains of 3.03 per cent. In Japan the

Nikkei closed up 123.43 at 14913.49. Despite the market gains, experts remained cautious about the longer-term outlook for stocks James Cor-release of the data, before falling nish, European strategist at BT

Alex.Brown said: "Nobody really believes that we're at the end of this correction."

in the UK, the Office for National Statistics said industrial production grew by 0.4 per cent in July and was stable on the year, stronger figures than expected. Manufacturing output, the primary component of industrial production, was up 0.1 per cent on the month and down 0.6 per cent on the

Following a raft of gloomy business surveys, the market had been forecasting that manufacturing output would fall by 0.2 per cent in July. again in later trading, and econo-

Bank's resolve to keep rates on hold this week. Richard Iley at ABN Amro said: "These data, combined with sterling's recent weakness, should

underpin unchanged rates this week". recession". The Bank's Monetary Policy Committee begins its two-day rate setting meeting today. An announcement will be made at midday on Thursday.

Economists were quick to point out that the better-than-expected manufacturing figures did not necessarily mean the sector was out of the woods. Jonathan Loynes at HSBC Securities said: "This is likely to prove a false dawn. Conditions in industry are set to get worse."

The fragile state of much of the UK dicate that a recession has started."

mists said the figures could harden the economy was underlined by two new surveys. The latest BDO Stoy Heyward "poll of polls" found that the British business community believed the country was "on the brink of

Meanwhile, the Society of Business Economists said that one in five business economists expected there to be

a recession next year Separately, NIESR, the research institute, said that GDP rose 0.5 per cent in the three months to July, and forecast that the rate of growth in the three months to August would also be 0.5 per cent. NIESR said: "These data suggest that the economy is now growing at, or slightly below trend, and do not in-

Food

group



NatWest's surprise chairman

NATWEST yesterday named Sir BY LEA PATERSON David Rowland, the former Lloyd's of London chairman, as the next chairman of the bank.

The surprise appointment of Sir David, regarded as the saviour of the Lloyd's insurance market, was well received by most City analysts. NatWest shares finished up 33p at 990p.

Lord Alexander of Weedon, the current NatWest chairman, is to leave the bank in April. Although analysts had been expecting Lord Alexander to step down at next year's annual meeting of shareholders, the

identity of his successor came as a surprise: Lord Blyth, the chairman of Boots and a nonexecutive director of the bank, had been widely tipped. Sir David, who at 65 is three

vears older than Lord Alexander, said he was "delighted" at his appointment. Lord Alexander said that

Sir David had the "necessary mix" of qualities for the chairmanship. "He has a lot of experience, a clear mind and respect within the City," the out-

going chairman said.

The appointment was ratified by the board yesterday morning, NatWest said. Sir David had been the "first and unanimous" choice of the board, according to a source close to the bank.

NatWest has also invited Sir Dick Evans, the chairman of British Aerospace, to join the board as a non-executive director effective from 1 October.

The management changes were generally well received by most analysts, many of whom had been unhappy with Lord

Alexander's tenure. One said: "There are certain people who will be glad to see Lord Alexander go. He was not really on the same wavelength as we were."

Sir David's appointment was called "safe but unimaginative" by one leading analyst, while another said he thought Sir David "looked good on paper". Others noted that the former Lloyd's of London chairman, who has been a non-executive director of the bank since April, lacked "hands-on retail experience".

tinue to be employed by the Prior commitments at Boots

to split three ways By Nigel Cope Associate City Editor

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the food-to-housebuilding con-glomerate, announced details yesterday of its break-up plans that will see the group split into three separately quoted companies in a move designed to boost shareholder value.

Hillsdown, which held abortive takeover talks with Unigate earlier this year, will emerge from the process in a slimmed down form. The company also plans to dispose of its Ross Breeders chicken business, as well as its operations in poultry processing, potatoes, wine and spirits and furniture.

Trading in the new Terranova chilled foods business and the Fairview homes company will start on 5 October, For every four Hillsdown shares held, investors will receive one share in each of Terranova and Fairview, and two in the new Hillsdown business.

Analysts are putting a tentative valuation of around £275m for Terranova and £250m for Fairview. The disposal prowidely expected to take up the gramme could net around £600m, including £250m for the to assume the chairmanship furniture business and £260m for the poultry operations.

until the end of next year. Had Part of the proceeds will be used to repay debt but the remainder will be returned to NatWest would have had to choose between extending shareholders in two tranches, Lord Alexander's tenure or appointing an interim chairman. one later this year and the rest next year when the poultry businesses are sold. Analysis Lord Hurd of Westwell and Sir George Quigley are to retire from the NatWest board in are suggesting a total cash return of about 40p-50p per share. April, although both will con-

The details were announced as Hillsdown unveiled flat halfyear operating profits of \$66.8m. This disguised a sharp fall in profits at the poultry operations which have been hit by oversupply and weakening consumer demand.

Former chief executive George Greener and Ray Mackie, the former finance director, have left the group and will be entitled to one years compensation. Bill Mackie, tle head of the poultry operation, is retiring and will also be digible for one year's salary.

Hillsdown said it had not held any further talks with Inigate since the original discussions were terminated in May. Unigate had originally offered around 217p per share before talks broke down. Hillsdown shares closed 2p

higher at 141p yesterday

Bonfield calls for telecoms shake-up

executive of British Telecom, called yesterday for traditional telecoms and broadcasting regulators to be scrapped and replaced with bodies which could police the fast-converging markets of computers, television and telephones.

In a strongly-worded speech which is bound to embarrass the government, Sir Peter Bonfield called for a radical shakeup of the current regime. "Old-style regulation, based on

SIR PETER BONFIELD, chief BY PETER THAL LARSEN

the 20th century sectors of telecoms and broadcasting is simply not adequate for the 21st century's converged industry," he said.

Instead, Sir Peter put for-ward a blueprint in which regulators cover four new markets: consumer equipment, distribution networks, service provision across those networks, and the creation of con-

NEW YORK

regulators to police effectively emerging new technologies such as the internet, mobile telephony and digital television, where telephone traffic and broadcasting have become almost indistinguishable.

Sir Peter's proposal is a response to a consultation paper published by the European Commission. Although he was speaking about regulation across Europe, Sir Peter's nments are a thinly-veiled

The structure would allow criticism of Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary. Earlier this year, the minister shied away from sug-

gesting radical changes to the current regulatory regime. Instead, his department opted to leave in place the existing structure, which gives Oftel responsibility for the telecoms Sir Peter said developing

the right regulatory structure was critical to enhancing Europe's competitiveness.

"Regulation has to be tight enough to outlaw unfair competition but light enough to promote investment and innovation," he said. Speaking at a conference on Europe's New Digital Econ-

meant that Lord Blyth, who was

reins, would have been unable

Lord Blyth been appointed,

Outlook, page 15

omy, Sir Peter said this did not necessarily mean having a single European regulator. However, BT would support a "centre of best practice" within the European Commission which would provide benchmarks for national regulators. MG to Thon

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

AFTER MONDAY'S strong advance, shares could make only a brief response to New York's opening surge. After a 52.8-point gain Footsie ran out of steam, ending with a 2.8-point fall at 5,344.2.

British American Tobacco, freed from its financial operations after a demerger, were the best blue-chip performer, adding 128.5p to 466p. Its old financial side, Allied Zurich, was more subdued, losing 30.5p to 7860. Housebuilders gained on hopes of lower interest rates.

Derek Pain, page 19

● |TOKYO

SHARE prices traded close to their highs in late morning after Wall Street had its first chance to react to the weekend speech by Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, which hinted at an easing of fiscal policy. psychological barrier was hit.

The Dow soared more than 300 points to 7,947.41 before steadying at a near 230-point gain. Dealers said many fund managers were buying to cover short positions. The Nasdaq was up 67.56 points at 1,634.08.

PRICES MET strong resistance in

the afternoon after the Nikkei 225 index moved above the 15,000 point mark, triggering profit-taking. Tokyo's bulls were encouraged by US hints of a possible fiscal easing, causing an initial rally until the

Share prices were able to hold on to positive territory to the close, supported by continued strong buying from overseas funds following the sharp gains of a day earlier. The Nikkei ended at 14,913.49, up 123.43 on the day.

HONG KONG

THE HANG Seng index closed up 112.49 points at 8,189.25 after brokers tempered initial enthusiasm. The index rose to a high of 8,331.69 before slipping back. After the recent strong rally, most fund managers decided to take profits as they do not believe the index can remain at its current level.

Traders said the market was concerned that the government may start trimming its holdings in blue-chips it bought up when the index stood at 7,800 points.

FRANKFURT

SHARE prices closed sharply higher, boosted by Wall Street's positive start. The Xetra DAX closed at 5,095.62. up 149.88 points from yesterday's close of 4,945.74. "I think Wall Street is up on the feeling that there is some catching up to do, and possibly in reaction to the slight improvements recently in South-cast Asian markets," said one trader.

A Bundesbank central council member, Olaf Sievert, said that the bank had no fear of lower interest rates if the position required them

SO IT IS to be Sir David Rowland after all. After months of specula-

tion that the NatWest chairmanship

would go to Lord Blyth, chief ex-

ecutive of Boots, or alternatively

that the bank was casting its net fur-

ther afield for an outsider, directors

have opted for the somewhat unin-

spired choice of Sir David. But

then as the strategy at NatWest,

investment banking, is now to con-

centrate on steady as she goes, con-

servatively run retail banking, the

uninspired choice may well be the

In many respects, Sir David is

perfect for the job. He has an ex-

services industry, most notably in

steering Lloyd's of London through

its dark night of the soul and out the

other side, and is as well regarded

as any in the City. He is thus easi-

ly capable of fulfiling that figurehead

role that has traditionally been the

At 65, however, he is not only

place of a clearing bank chairman.

older than the man he is replacing,

Lord Alexander, but he is also at an

age where even part-time non-ex-

ecutive chairmen tend to be press

ganged into hanging up their gun.

right one.

after its disastrous experiment in

cellent track record in the financial at NatWest, it might not seem like

THE INDIPENTIAL PROPERTY LINE

Meanwhite the Society of Business Fayment of a collect one minebut the are a good from the fine and the fine an # Percession next year

Separately MESIC the resemble abilities satisfied their color rose 05 proming the three proming to July and his rient that the training to many in the party translite to be because a minimum of and castr without and a linear gap state to the transfer of the tr that the countries is now coming or eligibile technic from and done to

Food group to split three **Ways**

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Larrence Barres Latin Committee of the The second section is the second was the transfer of the second 1982 Tomas Trees Had shotter of the section (for East) and the second s

has an excellent portfolio of rights

and as part of a larger group we will

floated at 150p four years ago, initially performed well peaking at 350p in 1996. However, the company was punished by a series of disappointments which pushed the

Shares in SMG jumped 32p to 651p on news of the acquisition, and the group's interim results, which showed pre-tax profits before exceptional items, rising 27 per was such a seasonal business. "VCI

Mr Flanagan said that SMG would be able to use VCI to publish some of its own video titles. He resigned after being appointed a added that SMG would also be able government minister earlier this to handle the production of the year.

videos that VCI currently makes itself. VCI makes videos for television personalities, including Jeremy Clarkson, the curly-haired Top Gear presenter, and hip-and-thigh guru

attempt by SMG to move outside its traditional Scottish heartland. Mr Flanagan said the group, which has the firepower to spend £300m, was still looking for further deals in

Meanwhile, he added that it would be "a few months" until the company found a new chairman to replace Gus McDonald, who

a yawn, but NatWest does seem to invention, which is to be defended have alighted on someone few can at all costs, even from their other object to, and with his background partners in the venture.

It's steady as she goes at NatWest

Already they have succeeded in delaying Airbus's conversion into a single corporate entity by six months, and they are kicking up very rough about the idea that Dasa and British Aerospace might consider merging ahead of the great transformation

Whether this aeronautical version of the Maginot line will hold is Hillsdown anyone's guess but the lessons of history would suggest not. The US defence scene is being carved up by a handful of giant players.

The refusal of the antitrust au-

thorities to sanction the Lockheed Martin-Northrop Grumman merger, merely makes it more likely that Lockheed will seek a European partner to give it the firepower to compete with Boeing and Raytheon, GEC's tryst with Alenia and BAe's purchase of a stake in Saab notwithstanding cross-border consolidation among the big guns of the European defence industry

is proceeding at a glacial pace. Meanwhile, national solutions like the much touted BAe-GEC

merger, are stumbling on consid-

pointment may be cause for a bit of the Airbus consortium as a Gallic erations like shareholder value. That leaves transatiantic marriages between like-minded partners, such as GEC's purchase of Tracor in the US, as the most likely way ahead. Mr Bischoff's thoughts may have been a none-toosubtle attempt to frighten the French into line. But as a long-term

vision, they have the weight of his-

THE HUGELY complex break-up of Hillsdown Holdings signals the end of yet another of those old-fashioned and greatly unloved conglomer-

Hanson long ago broke itself of the habit, and BTR has been shedding businesses like there's no tomorrow. Dalgety has dismembered itself, and even accident-prope Albert Fisher is beginning to get the

Only a few die-hards like Wassall and Tomkins soldier on. Even Greg Hutchings' guns to buns conglomerate is re-grouping itself into four

divisions to give the impression of Hillsdown was always the rag

bag to end all rag bags. Built up in the 1980s by Sir Harry Solomon and David Thompson, it operated what it openly described as the "Lily Pad management technique". This saw Hillsdown cast as the frog sat on a huge lily pad. Its approach to acquisitions, it said, was "to stick out its huge tongue and swallow what

ever flies by Even at the time, this raised eyebrows, but undeterred, Hillsdown was by the mid-1980s using its paper to do a deal a week. The idea was to buy businesses – any business - in a mature fragmented market and then wring out cost-savings.

Hillsdown amassed property, a department store in Tunbridge Wells, meat processing, housebuilding and string of food businesses ranging from Typhoo Tea to Chivers Hartley jams. It all amounted to a right old mess, with little

logic to much of it. Now, with its three way demerger and disposal programme, the management is actually in danger of creating some value to the business. The frog may not quite be about to turn into a prince of the stock market, but at least it is no longer sitting in a stagnant pond with its tongue hanging out.

Manchester Utd

THE PUBLIC outcry over Rupert Murdoch's planned bid for Manchester United has left the little matter of how much the club might be worth largely undebated, outside the boardroom at least. BSkyB is understood to have put £575m on the table, which equates to 221p a share. This is a big premium to the price at which the shares were trading ahead Sky's interest becoming public knowledge, but is it enough?

Not by a long way, seems to be the attitude of Man United directors. The players alone, in the books for nothing, must be worth £100m. On top of that there's an earnings stream of £28m a year, which could soar in the event of pay per view football becoming a reality. Then there is the value of the

stadium and other properties. But most of all, there is that intangible thing the value of the brand. In this respect, Manchester United. the most famous football club in the world, is unique. It is a trophy asset whose rarity value demands a correspondingly special price. The Man United board cannot settle for anything less than 250p a share.

IN BRIEF

Spanish group creates 230 jobs

A SPANISH car components group is creating 230 jobs in

Kent through a £12m

manufacturing plant at Thanet. Grupo Antolin-Irausa chose the EuroKent

Business Park in preference

to rival sites in France and

other parts of the UK. The

company is receiving grant

aid from the Government for

the facility, which will start

production in February 2000.

Eastern discount

EASTERN GROUP has signed

electricity customers in other

readiness for the opening of the market next Monday. It is

offering discounts of around

10 per cent on existing bills.

Eastern said that a Scottish-

a year could save £37-£48.

Gas cut-offs up

GAS disconnections are

rising at an alarming rate,

number of customers cut off

this year will exceed that in

Consumer's Council figures

rose by 38 per cent between

approach by suppliers to bad debts.

FIRST NATIONAL, a leading

yesterday converted to PLC

status, opening the way for

windfalls worth a maximum

authorities, is expected to be

capitalised between Ir£387m

216,000 customers to gain

of Irt3.420 each. The new

bank, granted a license

yesterday by the Irish

and Ir£510m.

show that disconnections

April and June to 7,548 as

1997 when disconnections

doubled. The Gas

part of a "get tough"

trish windfall

Irish building society,

prompting fears that the

up more than 200,000

parts of the country in

investment in a

Enic leads the football attack

a share. But the real sticking

point appears to be Mr Sugar's

maining managing director.

has come one or two other ap-

proaches made to Mr Sugar

about his stake. But, while Mr

Sugar has been playing Enic off

against other bidders, including

Rupert Murdoch, Mr Levy has

been playing Mr Sugar off against Manchester United.

phoney war became real. Mr

Lewis knew he would have to

move fast. On Monday, after the

Murdoch story broke, Enic was

pany put out a holding state

ment confirming it was

"monitoring the situation". But

its interest, we have learnt,

One source close the nego-

tiations said: "Manchester

United is the jewel in the crown.

This is the number one sports

franchise. They are looking at

der Enic has a huge credibili-

ty gap to bridge. Against the

might of Rupert Murdoch, it is

capitalised at just £123m, bare-

ly a fifth of what the Manches-

On the other hand, there is a

However, as a potential bid-

it quite aggressively."

goes far deeper.

This weekend, however, the

insistence on his son Daniel re-

For the same reason, little

in financial services, he must be a

better choice for the job than Lord

Blyth, an engineer and retailer, or

the present incumbent, a smooth

WHEN THEY can hear themselves

think under the roar of the air dis-

plays, the big wheels at the Farn-

borough Airshow are all talking

turkey. The name of the game is

consolidation, whether it is dressed

up as partnership, risk and revenue

sharing, strategic alliance or

the privacy of their chalets, but

some are happy to do their think-

ing out loud. Thus, Manfred

Bischoff, chief executive of Daim-

ler-Benz Aerospace (Dasa), one of

the partners in Airbus, wonders art-

lessly whether it wouldn't be a

good idea to invite the Americans

This was a remark guaranteed

on board.

Mr Lewis, a publicity-shy

man of considerable wealth, has

been busily distancing himself

from Mr Levy. In April he hand-

ed over his 49 per cent share-

and his son Charlie, whose

ing the restaurant side of the

clusively Mr Levy's.

mess. The football side is ex-

Already Enic has made great

strides towards achieving its

goal - a portfolio of half-a-dozen

clubs in Europe, all with huge

profit potential in the coming

age of the European Super

League and digital television.

cent of Glasgow Rangers. Since

then he has acquired stakes in

three more clubs - Slavia

Prague in the Czech Republic,

Vicenza of Italy and AEK

England. Enic has been talking

to Alan Sugar for over a year

about buying his stake in Spurs.

But the big gap remains

Athens of Greece.

Most prefer to do it discreetly in

straightforward takeover

talking barrister

Aerospace

News Analysis: BSkyB has a formidable rival in the fight to buy football clubs. Joe Lewis has stakes in four leading teams and wants more

OUTLOOK

his career to date has been exclu-

sively in insurance, a quite differ-

ent business. Given what happened

such a good idea to replace one non-

banker with another Still, David

Rowland at least comes in unam-

biguously as a part-time, non-ex-

ecutive chairman, so there should

be no quarrel about who runs the

show, as there has between Lord

Alexander and Derek Wanless, the

His timing is also good; a sem-

blance of calm has returned to

NatWest after the traumas of the

past few years, and the bank's re-

cent set of interim results was well

Furthermore, he is not a banker; received in the City. Sir David's ap- to inflame the French. They regard

present chief executive.

WITH ATTENTION focused on By Andrew Garfield Rupert Murdoch and Manchester United, the manoeuvrings of another player on the European soccer scene, the

billionaire financier Joe Lewis, have gone largely unnoticed. Yet within weeks, we can reveal, he will be announcing the acquisitions of another two leading European clubs, including Bordeaux in France and a Swiss club believed to be Sion, the team that supplies

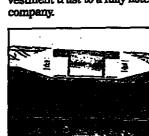
most of the Swiss national side. Through his publicly quoted Robert Hersov, who has close vehicle Enic he is also deep in negotiations to buy Alan tenham Hotspur, the North London club. It is widely believed in the City that if he could raise the money he would also Time Warner, the giant US mount a counter-bid for Man- media conglomerate with

chester United, too. Enic is run by a Lewis pro- ostensibly to create a world tégé, Daniel Levy, a 36-year-old chain of themed restaurants. Cambridge economics graduate and by Mr Lewis's son Charlie. Mr Levy, whose family started Mr Byrite, the cloth- converting Enic from an ining chain, and had known Mr Lewis for years, approached the company.

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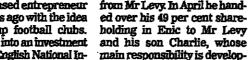
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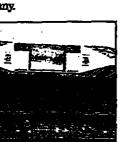


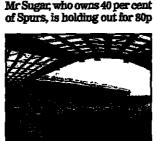


Bahamas-based entrepreneur several years ago with the idea of buying up football clubs. They backed into an investment trust called English National Investment Company and set about turning it into a suitable

vehicle for their ambitious. Together they have recruited a formidable array of backers, including SBC Warburg, the City investment bank, and ties with both Silvio Berlusconi, the funder station prime min-

Enic also has the backing of whom Enic teamed up in April, Warner's investment made it possible for Mr Levy to fulfil one key element in his strategy of vestment trust to a fully listed







Enic's theatres of dreams: (left to right) Ibrox, White Hart Lane and Old Trafford

ter club would cost. political dimension. There is a good chance a BSkyB bid would be referred for consideration on monopoly grounds, even if ultimately it cannot be blocked. A bid from Enic would raise none of the competition issues that a

BSkyB takeover of a football club as pivotal as Manchester United inevitably would. The position of the Football Association which, it has been assimed, would give Enic a dispensation from rules forbidding joint ownership of Scottish and English football clubs, is also a question. The European football governing body UEFA tried earlier this year to thwart Enic's acquisition plans with a ruling that sought to prevent clubs with common ownership

competing in international With United's board locked

Joe Lewis's Enic group is no rival to Rupert Murdoch, but he has powerful friends in meetings and under pressure to make up its mind, Mr Levy yesterday flew back from Glasgow where he attended a Rangers board meeting with

the Enic chairman, Howard Stanton. It would take some highly imaginative financial structuring, particularly in view of Enic's poor recent share price performance. But Enic has powerful friends who would

underwrite a bid. In the end, it

is their views which will probably count more.

Tottenham Hotspur, on its current performance, would be the more attractive option financially. It could be wrapped up for little more than £80m. Indeed there were suggestions yesterday that Mr Sugar had been talking direct to Time Warner as well. For a man whose instincts are never to overpay, that would probably be

Mr Levy's personal preference.

But price is by no means the only consideration. The personal animosity of Ted Turner. the head of CNN, towards Mr

Murdoch is well known. CNN is now part of Times Warner. Mr Turner, says one source, is chafing at the bit. He feels that Warner needs an English football club, and it has to be the best. Getting one across Mr Murdoch in the process would,

the cake.

Jardine benefits JARDINE Lloyd Thompson, the insurance broken vesterday said it would benefit from consolidation which has seen both Sedgwick and Willis Corroon. the two biggest brokers, sold

to US bidders in the last three months. Posting a rise in profits from £26.7m to £30m, JLT said there was "a unique opportunity" to attract staff as well as customers worried about an increasing lack of choice. The group was itself formed from the merger of JIB Group with Lloyd Thompson in

February last year. Nikko into credit

NIKKO Europe, a leading Japanese-owned investment bank, has entered the market for consumer finance in the UK by buying British Credit Trust Holdings, a motor finance company, for an undisclosed sum. British Credit Trust financed the country's first black taxicabs as early as 1908. Nikko had already spent £255m since April buying RoadChef, Blue Boar and Take A Break, the motorway service specialists. Roger Gewolb, who as chief executive has an 80 per cent stake, will continue in his post. He said BCT would target 8.7 million adults unable to get credit

SMG to get video rights Rolls US jet rival to take to Thomas in £31m deal stake in Airbus engine

SCOTTISH MEDIA GROUP, owners By PETER THAL LARSEN of Scottish Television and the Glasgow Herold, launched a takeover bid yesterday for VCI, the video publishing group. SMG is offering 80p a share for

VCI, whose video publishing rights shares down to below 50p earlier include Thomas the Tank Engine and Manchester United. The bid values the company at £31.2m. Andrew Flanagan, SMG's chief executive, said VCI had suffered since its flotation in 1994 because it

cent to £23.5m.

Rosemary Conley. The acquisition marks the first England.

power the new Airbus A340. News of the deal came as Rolls announced a bumper package of orders at the Farnborough Air Show worth \$1.5bn. Rolls is already in partnership with Pratt & Whitney on the international

breaking deal yesterday to bring a

rival US aero-engine manufacturer

Hamilton Standard, part of the

giant United Technologies corpora-

tion which owns the Pratt & Whitney

aero engine company, is one of six

risk-and-revenue-sharing partners

taking a 24 per cent stake in the Trent

500, the Rolls jet engine which will

into its Trent engine programme.

ROLLS-ROYCE forged a ground- By Michael Harrison

of its deadly US rivals has taken a direct stake in an engine developed by Rolls. The other partners are FiatAvio of Italy and Lucas Aerospace; the Spanish aero-engine company ITP and Marubeni, and

Kawasaki Heavy Industries of Japan. The stretched A340-500/600 has so far attracted orders worth \$15bn for 120 aircraft from nine airlines. The value to Rolls of engine orders stands

The Dubai-based carrier Emirates and the Californian aircraft leasing company ILFC yesterday confirmed orders for up to 26 V2500 engine programme. But the stretched A340s worth a total of Trent deal is the first time that one \$3.4bn to Airbus and \$1bn to Rolls.

Rolls' US subsidiary Allison has also

clinched a \$500m contract to power a fleet of up to 150 Embraer regional airliners on order to American Eagle. The continuing sales successes for Airbus follow its coup in beating Boeing to a £5bn regional aircraft order from British Airways.

Meanwhile Manfred Bischoff, chief executive of Daimler-Benz Aerospace, the German partner in Airbus, said he would welcome US investment in the four-nation consortium which is due to convert to a

public company next year. "I think that would help competition and there is no reason, there is no law, that in aerospace, the line has to be drawn in the Atlantic," he said. Outlook, this page

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Mansell picks up struggling Lovell

MANSELL, the privately-owned con-struction group, yesterday announced plans to move on to the stock exchange through a £80m merger with its listed rival, Lovell.

The merger, which will be a reverse takeover by Mansell of its troubled competitor, will create one of the UK's biggest providers of social

The companies said that council housing is set to boom following the Government's decision to allow local authorities to spend billions of pounds in capital receipts. David Beardsmore, the Mansell chief ex-ecutive who will head the combined group, said the company would be "ideally placed" to capitalise on the growth in social housing.

Shares in Lovell were suspended at 12.5p yesterday pending com-pletion of the deal. The enlarged company, with sales of £409m and an estimated market value of more than £80m, will be able to compete for council housing work throughout the UK, Mr Beardsmore said.

The chief executive, who is sitting on a paper profit of around £1.6m for his 2 per cent stake, said the deal was an almost risk-free way of ending Mansell's 66 years as a private company. The current market turmoil was making it hard to persuade institutions to invest in companies coming to market. "If we had to float independently we would not have got a market capitalisation as big as the one we would get with Lovell."

Under the terms of the reverse takeover Mansell, a Surrey-based contractor specialising in refurbishment and maintenance, will have 78 per cent of the new entity. The company, which had sales of £183m and profits of £4.7m last year. is controlled by the descendants of the founding family. Venture capital group 3i has a 17 per cent stake.

Mr Beardsmore said there was "no indication" that existing shareholders would sell on completion. Sir John Wickerson, Mansell's chairman, takes

the post in the new group. David Heppell, Lovell's chief executive, will become an executive director.

The deal is a lifeline for Lovell, which has been hit hard by the recent economic slowdown. Analysts said the company had suffered from a number of ill-judged property deals in the late 1980s which plunged it into debt. A new management team, led by Mr Heppell and backed by a Swedish investment fund, took over three years ago and refocused the group on its core construction business. Last year the company posted a £1.54m loss, compared with a loss of £11.7m in 1996.

Meanwhile, Taylor Woodrow, the construction and property group, yesterday posted a 32.5 per cent rise in interim pre-tex profits to £48m on turnover of £668m. Colin Parsons, the chief executive, said the recent sell-off in housebuilding shares had been overdone. "I think (the market) has overreacted, and we will see that as the results of other housebuilders start coming through."



Stephen Rubin, chairman of Pentland

Pentland takes £30m US charge

PENTLAND, the Speedo and Kickers By NIGEL COPE leisurewear group, is to take a £30m Associate City Editor charge to cover the costs of restructuring its American business.

Pentland is planning to sell or close its US fashion footwear operation, which is losing money and suffered a near-£10m cash outflow last year. The division designs and distributes fashion footwear to department stores in America, but is now seen as a non-core business by Pentland.

The company will concentrate instead on its core portfolio of brands such as Ellesse, Berghaus and Mitre, as well as Speedo and Kickers. We are taking this action because the division has not performed to our expectations," said Andy Rubin, the Pentland chief executive. The decision was taken after a

strategic review. A cost cutting programme will be implemented. Pentland confirmed plans to quit the replica football kit market, which has been declining. Its Pony brand

sors the kits of Premiership football clubs Tottenham Hotspur, Southampton and West Ham.

These contracts will be honoured but will not be renewed as a result Peter Macdiarmid of increased losses at Pony UK. at 79p.

Other clubs affected include Nor wich. Oldham and Huddersfield.

The news came as Pentland announced a 20 per cent rise in firsthalf pre-exceptional profits to £17.4m. There was a £2.9m charge to cover the costs of making the group's computer systems year 2000 compliant. Trading in the first half was difficult in the UK and Asia, the company said. It is also cautious on prospects for the second half.

Among Pentland's main brands, Speedo was hit by soft demand in Asia and the strong pound. Ellesse made progress in the UK and Europe but also experienced a Far East impact, Kickers footwear was affected by stock rundowns by retailers which had over-ordered.

Pentland has net cash of £136m and is looking for acquisitions, al

though it is not currently in talks. Group first-half sales fell from £316m to £252m as a result of disposals. The interim dividend was 1.54p per share against 1.47p last time. The shares closed down 0.5p

Norwich role is predator, not a target

NORWICH UNION, one of the BY ANDREW VERITY UK's biggest insurers, sought to remove itself from the shopping lists of Britain's retail banks yesterday when it classed itself as "a predator, not a target."

There had been persistent market rumours of a takeover by a large retail bank wanting to expand sales of life insurance and penfocused on the Halifax and NatWest Bank.

Richard Harvey, chief executive, said Norwich Union's corporate strategy was to be "a consolidator"- rather than consolidated.

"If there was any doubt about it, I want to make the point that in terms of Norwich Union acquiring others, our team has been active in investigating opportunities

both here and abroad. We have not completed a deal of a meaningful size because we concluded we would not be prepared to pay the prices offered," he said.

Recent corrections, however, had "taken some of the froth out of the market." Norwich Union unveiled a

bumper set of results yesterday for the first half of the

year. Operating earnings before tax, the key measure for insurers, leapt 21 per cent to £348m, at the top of analysts'

Much of the rise stemmed from a robust market for life and pensions. Sales jumped 18 per cent last year after a slow first half, when sions. Speculation had Norwich Union was completing its transition from mutual insurer to listed

> The general insurance arm was hard hit by poor weather in the first half, such as January storms and April floods costing £13m.

Norwich Union, never the less, was far less exposed than other insurers, such as

GRE or Royal & SunAlliance. In March, Norwich Union sold its New Zealand life and savings wing for £54m to Royal & Sun Alliance and bought St Paul's International, a small general

Norwich Union shares rose 6 per cent to 449.5p yes-

Shares in Prudential and Legal & General also rose by nearly 2 per cent each

Iceland profits rise to ≥£23m

By NIGEL COPE

ICELAND, the frozen-food retailer, continued its recovery yesterday when it announced healthy sales gains boosted by its home-delivery scheme and disclosed plans to extend the trial of its convenience store

Announcing a 32 per cent jump in half-year pre-tax profits to £23.6m, Malcolm Walker, Iceland's chairman and chief executive, said the homedelivery initiative had contributed to a 14 per cent increase in like-for-like food sales in Iceland's stores during the first half.

Current trading is also strong with same-store sales 10 per cent ahead of the same

period last year. Iceland's trial of six Iceland Extra's stores, which operate a convenience store concept with an extended product range, has worked well. Sales in the converted stores were 40 per cent ahead on a comparable basis, though so far the extra sales have had only minimal impact on the bottom line.

Iceland's home-shopping service, where customers order from home, will be available nationwide by the end of October. Board changes announced yesterday see Russell Ford promoted to trading director. He and Andrew Pritchard, finance director, will become joint managing directors of

|P&O on the takeover trail

THE P&O chairman, Lord Ster ling said yesterday he believed that the current economic difficulties could provide expansion opportunities for the

Speaking after announcing a 12 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £138m at the halfway stage, Lord Sterling said the recent problems would open up a wealth of takeover opportunities at attractive prices although he insisted there were no specific deals in the pipeline. "It is worth remembering

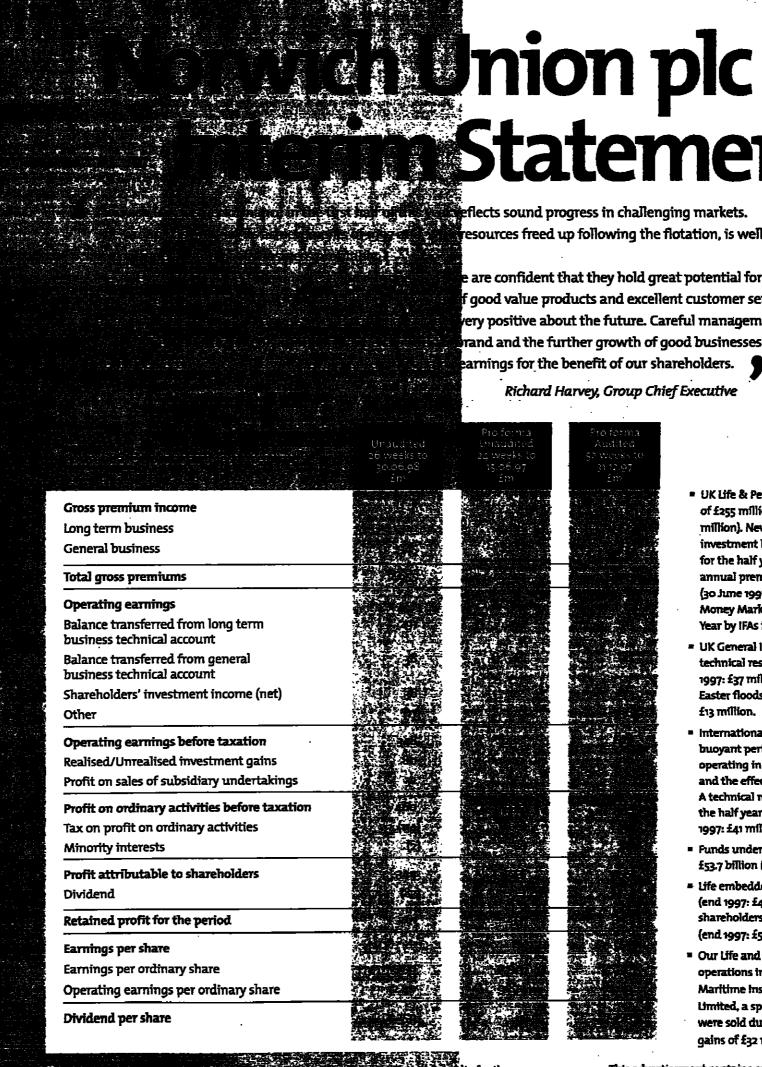
that it is times like these that create opportunities," he said. City reaction to the figures was broadly positive. The

shares rose 2p to 687p. Recent focus has been on consolidation with the merger of the cross-Channel ferry operations with those of Swedish rival Stena becoming effective in March of this year. Lord Sterling said a large part of the cost savings from the merger had been achieved.

The joint venture is split 60 per cent in P&O's favour.The group has also merged its container operations with Neddloyd of Holland. The joint ventures reported half year results last month.

Profits at Bovis, the construction arm were up 40 per cent. The P&O chairman dismissed reports that the group was looking at a sale. Lord Sterling said: "I would be surprised if it is not part of

the P&O group next year"





resources freed up following the flotation, is well placed

e are confident that they hold great potential for us. f good value products and excellent customer service through very positive about the future. Careful management of risk rand and the further growth of good businesses in earnings for the benefit of our shareholders.

Richard Harvey, Group Chief Executive

- UK Life & Pensions Technical result of £255 million (15 June 1997: £213 million). New life, pensions and investment business growth of 18% for the half year to £129 million annual premium equivalent (30 June 1997: £109 million). Voted Money Marketing Company of the Year by IFAs in 1997 and 1998.
- UK General Insurance commendable technical result of £28 million (15 June 1997: £37 million) in the light of the Easter floods which cost the Group £13 million.
- International business another buoyant performance despite operating in some difficult markets and the effect of strong sterling. A technical result of £46 million for the half year to 30 June 1998 (15 June 1997: £41 million).
- Punds under management up to £53.7 billion (end 1997: £49.2 billion).
- Life embedded value £4.4 billion (end 1997: £4.0 billion) and shareholders' net assets £5.5 billion (end 1997: £5.1 billion).
- Our Life and Fund Management operations in New Zealand, and Maritime Insurance Company Limited, a specialist marine insurer, were sold during the period, realising gains of £32 million.

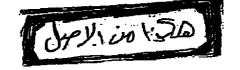
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BAT returns to a rapturous welcome

THE RETURN of British American Tobacco to the stock market after a 22-year absence brings a humiliating end to one of the most ambitious diversification programmes ever undertaken by a

Until it hit the takeover trail, BAT was a "pure" tobacco company. Worried about the growing impact of the smoking and health campaign, it joined the rest of the industry in a madcap spending spree. Now, once again an uncomplicated smokes group following its final demerger, BAT was given a rapturous stock market welcome, puffed up 128.5p

to 466p in busy trading.

To rub salt into the diversification wound, the last remaining non-to-bacco business, the Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star financial and insurance operations which merged with Switzerland's Zurich group, made a far less impressive debut. Allied Zurich, as the new financial group is known, ended 30.5 down at 786p.

The sharply contrasting displays is due to the market perception that the insurance group faces an uncertain time and the once despised tobacco side is underMARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

valued and high yielding. There is also a belief that the tobacco business got the best of the break-up. BAT, it now appears, wasted its time spreading into such areas as catalogue retailing, supermarkets,

and paper and packaging. At one time it even fancied itself as a brewer. It was an unsuccessful takeover bid, inspired by the late Sir James Goldsmith, which ended BAT's expansionist aspirations. It beat off the Goldsmith assault by promising to get back to its core

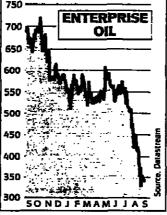
split, had sold or floated its other

A host of investment houses advocated the merits of BAT. Crédit Lyonnais and Schroders were among those suggesting the shares are a buy.

The tobacco/financial spilt pushed oil group Lasmo out of Footsie, just ahead of the steering committee meeting to decide on the quarterly changes. It looks like being quite a shake-up, with Enterprise Oil following Lasmo. Others in the firing line include RMC and Smiths Industries.

One late contender for Footsie honours is TeleWest Communications, the cable group. A share conversion, completed as the market closed, should have provided enough ammunition, in the shape of ordinary shares, to ensure Footsie membership.

The country's second largest cable group said 490 million preference shares, issued when it took over General Cable, had been switched into ordinary shares. The new shares lifted Telewest's capitalisation to approaching £3bn which is enough to give Footsie sta**SHARE SPOTLIGHT** ENTERPRISE



tus. There could, however, be a questionmark over the timing of the conversion; the new shares had not actually been traded when the

Footsie calculations were made. Footsie ended 2.8 points off at 5,344.2; at one time it was up 52.8, reflecting a strong New York opening. It could be argued that Monday's dramatic advance was in anticipation of yesterday's Wall Street strength. Supporting indices to 180.5p and Safeway 8p to 323p. were rather more confident. The J Sainsbury shaded 2.5p to 540p mid cap gained 57.4 to 4,804.5 and

the small cap 17.3 to 2,102.2. the impending Footsie relegation. believe the shares are a buy. Conversely it takes a cautious stance on Securicor, likely to become an to 108p. index constituent. The oil group, 716.5p a year ago, fell a further 3p

to 347p; Securicor rose 11p to 485p. United News & Media, ahead of figures today, put on 45.5p to 672p and Norwich Union, following first half figures, rose 27p to 452p.

More overseas orders lifted some of the depression from Rolls-Royce, up 7.75p to 199.5p.

The signalled arrival of David Rowland as chief of National Westminster Bank prompted a 33p gain to 990p with the market at least relieved at the ending of the uncertainty over the chairman-

Supermarket shares were ruffled as BT Alex.Brown trimmed its profits forecasts for Asda and Safeway, two chains which once nursed merger hopes. Asda retreated 5.5p

and Tesco 1p to 169p.

Marks & Spencer gave up 21.5p Enterprise shipped, although to 498p in response to the bleak Henderson Crosthwaite, despite trading performance of one of its major suppliers, Dewhirst. After a torrid session on Monday following its figures. Dewhirst gained 2.5p

> Booker, now in reverse takeover talks with Budgens, turnbled 14p to 156p, another new low. Talk of interest rate cuts had the predictable impact on house builders which have suffered sharp reverses in recent months, Barratt Developments led the mid cap advance with a 17p recovery to 181.5p and Beazer added 14.5p to

157p. Taylor Woodrow, with strong

results, gained 14.5pto 162.5p. TLG, the lighting group where US group Cooper Industries has made a 160p a share bid, rose 3p to 170p as Wassall, the conglomerate, picked up another 550,000 shares at 165p. It now has 15.94 per cent.

SEAQ VOLUME: 5,344.2m SEAQ TRADES: 62,674 GILT INDEX: n/a

SUPERFRAME, a designer and maker of retail display equipment, beld at 12p. There are suggestions Mike McDonald, chairman of Sheffield United, the quoted football club, is thinking

about pumping some of his private businesses into the group. Superframe's shares are near their year's low; they have been up to 23p. Dean Corporation, the builder and property services group, is a near 30 per cent

FLYING FLOWERS, which has withered from nearly 600p to 130p following profits warnings, firmed 3p to 149p. Beeson Gregory has upgraded its recommendation from hold to buy. It sees profits falling from £5.8m to £5.1m with £7m in the frame for next year, But analyst Russell Kerr says it is unlikely the market will give FF a rating "that reflects the group's intrinsic value until investor concerns are

allayed".

A security risk at Williams Our father, who

WILLIAMS REMAINS a company in transition. Since it bought Chubb for £1.3bn the former conglomerate has shed more than £800m worth of underperforming or cyclical businesses such as do-it-yourself and paints in order to reinvent itself as a security group con-centrating on its locks, alarms and fire protection businesses.

Yesterday's interim results are a step in the right direction. The leaner and fitter Williams reported a 12 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £133m on sales up 32 per cent to £1_23bn.

The performance was driven chiefly by strong growth in the electronic systems division, which showed profit growth of 15 per cent. The locks and hardware division was also on the up, with earnings growth of

Despite these encouragingond half is fraught with uncertainties. The management is partly responsible for this: its promise that 60 per cent of its yearly earnings will come in the latter part of the year has set Williams a demanding target. With markets set to remain broadly the same, Williams's ability to meet its goal hinges on whether it can deliver the £40m in cost savings promised

at the time of the Chubb buy. Despite the company's confidence, many in the City remain sceptical and fear that the savings could be required to make up for some unexpected

market downturn. disposal programme has been delayed indefinitely by the depre-tax profits to £83.7m owed cision to freeze the sale of the US paints division due to tough market conditions.

This means that the company will have to carry some of its unwanted baggage for a littile while longer and that management's time and efforts will be diverted away from the core

The shares, which closed unchanged at 316p, have underperformed the market recently. They are now on 13 times expected earnings of

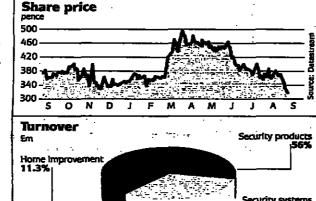
That's not demanding, but given the doubts over prospects for the company's second halfyear, the shares are no more

INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

WILLIAMS: AT A GLANCE Market value: £2.301 bn, share price 316p

Trading record 1995 1996 1997 1997 1998 Numover (50n) 4.60 1.82 2.23 1.23 0.93 Pre-tax profits (£m) 228.30 340.20 254.00 263.50 118.10 Escaings per stare (p) 22.80 39.10 19.80 23.40 -19.00 Dividends per share (p) 14.25 15.05 15.80 6.25 6.05



BBA kept aloft by aviation

THE ENGINEERING sector is out of favour and BBA has suffered with it. Judging by yes-terday's interims this is not entirely unjustified. Although the shifting balance of the busi-Also, the completion of the ness makes fair comparisons difficult, the 7 per cent rise in much to a sharp drop in inter-

> est charges. The best performance came from the aviation arm, benefiting from the growing use of corporate aircraft for timeshare travel. The unit generated onethird of first-half profits and is showing organic growth in sales and profits. The order book remains strong, while bolt-on acquisitions fit easily

into the existing framework. Sales in the non-woven division which supplies the essential materials for nappies and sanitary towels were static, but increased capacity and new projects will come on stream in the second half. Veratec, the £160m acquisition, will also

start contributing to profits, while BBA is set to expand into

Aegis (1)
Aggregain Inde (1)
William Bairt (1)
Seradin (1)
EBA (1)

ISIP (II) Norwich Union (I) Novarz (I) HR Owen (I)

Peolisce (0) P & 0 (1) Scottish Media (1)

Wishes City of Life Props (f) - (*)
Wysellam Noter Green (f) 49.7m (38.5m)
Williams (f) 1.23bn (330.0m)
Yale Cutto(f) 262.24m (184.5

Braumer (i) Charler (i) Dagueham M Expanset (i) Fishers interi

Sales of brake pads grew by

Turnover (£)

9.9m (6.7m) 2.01bs (1.85bn) 367 2m (206.5m) 245.0m (283.7m) 0.928m (0.877m) 900.3m (828.0m) 117.3m (111.9m) 598.6m (505.0m) 162.0m (145.2m)

182 (m. (145.2m) 61.5m (56.1m) 15.4m (22.6m) 14.0m (11.1m) 15.7m (7.8m) 1.325m (1.515m) 16.4m (12.2m) 757.0m (715.0m) 32.4m (22.3m) 1118.87m (116.81m) 7.1m (3.1m)

- (-) 107.35m (100.13m)

199.0m (187.8m) 0.267m (0.296m) 3.5m (6.3m) 253.9m (318.2m) 1.130c (2.885m) 99.0m (197.0m) 0.383m (0.350m)

China and Latin America, both growth markets.

just 1 per cent in the first half, vinced. Aegis shares, which excluding the impact of ex- have fallen from a peak of 112p change rates, and what growth there was came from the renlacement market. Much denends on new development programmes in the US.

The shares closed little changed at 350p, well below the peak of 533p three months ago. Analysts are disinclined to change their forecasts for the full year, which average £166m, rising to £190m for 1999. On a forward multiple of 12 the shares are worth watching, but until market sentiment shifts back to engineers they are fully valued for now.

Aegis moves to calm investors

HAS ADVERTISING spending peaked? Maiden, the billboard last week with a warning of a slowdown in spending. Yesterday Aegis, the media planning group, did its best to calm them down. Yes, said the chief executive, Crispin Davis, spending in the UK is slowing down, although the market will still grow by 4 to 5 per cent this year. But the outlook in continental Europe and the US remains

Investors were not con-

last month, only edged up 0.5p to 83.5p yesterday despite the company reporting a 13 per cent increase in first-half operating profits to £24.1m.

Although Aegis clearly depends on overall advertising spending, it is also benefiting from the increasing trend towards using media planning agencies. The proliferation of television channels and magazines, not to mention the Internet, means that companies have to spend increasing amounts of time thinking about where to place their ads.

What's more, as an independent agency Aegis is able to move faster than its rivals, most of which are part of larger advertising groups. Stripping out acquisitions, organic sales growth was almost 9 per cent

At the moment, Aegis is sticking to strategic bolt-on acquisitions, including spending £15m on building up a network in the Far East. Longer term, however, Mr Davis still sees scope for consolidation in the media buying industry. Fullyear profit forecasts of £79.9m place the shares on a forward earnings multiple 23. Despite immediate worries, the shares offer good long-term value.

COMPANY RESULTS

123.0m (7.8m)	1.2p (0.5p)	0.84p (0.80p)	04.12.98	14.09.98
14.04m (11.61m)	8.2p (6.7p)	4.1p (3.9p)	07.01.98	30.11.98
0.415m (0.182m)	2.13p (0.80p)	ral (-)	-	•
85.8m (90.8m)	13.9p (12.4p)	2.65 (2.4p)	13,11,98	14.09.98
13,37m (14,04m)	19.60 (20.90)	6.0p (5.6p)	11.11.98	14.09.98
44.7m (49.4m)	29.2p (33.9p)	9.5p (9.5p)	09.11.98	14.09.98
3.04m (2.83m)	9.8p (8.0p)	2.75p (2.50)	18.11.98	05.10.98
5.8m (4.4m)	6.25p (4.63p)	1.95p (1.70p)	13,11.98	05.10.98
1.879m (1.234m)	1.1p (0.8p)	0.25p (0.2p)	30.11.98	19.10.98
1.43m (1.32m)	2.98p (2.53p)	0.31p (0.28p)	09,10,98	14.09.98
0.636m (0.479m)	2.14p (1.63p)	pii (-)		-
52. im (56.9m)	5.30 (5.60)	2.25p (2.20p)	04.04.99	28.09.98
3.8m (2.7m)	4.5p (3.9p)	1.5p (nil)	•	
7.77m (7.72m)	6,27p (6.19p)	1.55p (1.40p)	02,11.98	21.09.98
68.3m (70.4m)	17.8p (14.4p)	5.7p (5.4p)	19.10.98	14.08.98
1.32m (0.975m)	3.0p (2.2p)	0.9p (0.8p)	23.10.98	lba -
30.34m (18.38m)	10.6p (4.5p)	5.Dp (4.5p)	16.11.98	12.10.98
5.37m (2.27m)	6.96p (4.59p)	6.0p (4.5p)	09.10.98	14.09.98
460.0m (335.0m)	17.50 (11.90)	4.25p (-)	16.12.98	12.10.98
4.37m (4.83m)	3.27p (3.42p)	1.84p (1.84p)	21.10.98	05.10.98
3.05m (2.15m)	1.19p (0.05p)	0.50p (0.40p)	07.10.98	14.09.98
0.121m (0.104m)	1.61p (1.33p)	nii (-)	-	-
-1.4m (-0.099m)	-2.3 ip (0.17p)	π a (-)	•	
14.5m (7.1m)	2.26p (0.52p)	1.54p (1.47p)	02.11.98	28 09.98
138.0m (123.1m)	16.00 (14.50)	13.94p (13.5p)	06 04.98	14.09.98
27.0m (37.0m)	29.2p (41.9p)	8.0o (6.6o)	06.11,98	12.10.98
0.212m (0.182m)	1.46p (1.20p)	nd (-)	-	-
0.23m (0.55m)	1.3p (3.3p)	nal (-)	-	•
-0.436m (-0.506m)	-0.25p (-0.57p)	nii (-)	-	14.09.98
48.0m (36.2m)	8.3p (6.2p)	1.50 (1.250)	18.09.98	
1.22m (0.451m)	21.20 (8.50)	2.50 (nil)	07.01.98	30.11.98
6.484m (3.581m)	2.27p (0.92p)	ni (-)	16 10 00	ibe
0.852m (0.138m)	13.08p (-1.33p)	3.5p (-)	16.10.98 02.10.98	21.09.98
265.5m (118.1m)	23.4p (10.0p)	6.25p (6.05p)	04 11 00	21.09.96

art in Microsoft

TO THE QE II Centre in Westminster to hear the Ruler of the Known Universe, Bill Gates, express his enthusiasm for the

The besuited nerd told the fifth annual CEOs summit on "Converging Technologies" how the Net was going to take over the world and why everyone should use Microsoft to

Then Dr Christopher Hartnett, chairman and founder of USA Global Link, a Net-based telecoms company, got up to ask a question.

Instead of throwing Mr Gates a couple of curve balls on monopolies and the like, Dr Hartneit embarked on a mini-culogy. of USA Global Link, but I'd also MOHAMED AL-FAYED has high standard of the tournalike to thank you on behalf of the hired a chap from Midland ment, ABN Amro beat "Gen-

entire human race," he said. As the startled audience sniggered into their presentation packs. Dr Hartnett burbled on about how Bill Gates was the area manager in Basingstoke. fount of all human knowledge, and finished off with a flourish: "If William H Gates didn't exist, none of us would be here today." I know what he meant,

LORD GOWRIE, the former minister for the arts, has gone back to his Irish roots and become a non-executive director of FTG Group, a company based in Dublin that specialises in smart cards and "swipe tech-

nology". Lord Gowrie was born in Dublin in 1939 and was brought up in Co Donegal A family pile, Castle Martin in the Wicklow Mountains, had to be sold in the early 1980s.

ITG Group was formed in 1989 and is led by John Nagle, group chief executive, and Maurice Healy, group managing director. The company is expanding aggressively and its last two acquisitions have been in the UK: Telecentral in London and CreditCard Co (UK) in Wales. It is listed on the Developing Companies Market in Dublin and AIM in London.

Lord Gowrie already has a clutch of other directorships, including Yeoman Investment change Square in Broadgate in order of dollars.

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS BY JOHN

Willcock



Trust and Verity, and he has been chairman of Development Securities since 1995.

Bank to run Harrods Bank, erali Peelers" in the semi-finals. David Maxwell has spent his who had in turn just beaten last entire 36-year career with the Midland, the last six years as

"His command of French, which he studied after leaving Eton College, led to his being seconded to Eurotunnel as manager, banking and exchange, during the 1980s."

Mr Maxwell said yesterday: "Harrods Bank is a rare gem these days, compared with the general high street banking scene. At Harrods Bank, clients still receive a highly personalised service from a team of very experienced and mature bankers." Unlike Midland, I

I'M GLAD to say the weather held for the final of the 1998 Corney & Barrow Golf Croquet League yesterday, which was won by a pair of likely lads from

ABN Amro. Drummond Pratt and Paul Swaddling, both Oxford graduates from the Dutch bank, took just 20 minutes to beat a pair of Swedish asset man-

The ABN boys were victori-

admitted to some serious prematch nerves, saying they considered themselves the "phoenix from the ashes".

the City. Apparently the winners

When at Oxford they both decided not to join the University Croquet Club as they said it was "teetotal and games took up to three hours"

The Swedes, meanwhile, were even more amazed to have made it as far as the final, having entered the tournament on the off-chance. Called "Subpar" (SEB Fonder - Asset Management), they achieved a 100 per cent success rate until the final, having swept aside the likes of Barings and Deutsche

Bank on the way. year's champions, the "Tokai Triplers". Stephen Mulliner of Triplers is currently chairman Harrods says of Mr Maxwell: of the English Croquet Association and is ranked fifth in the world.

> THERE'S A rumour going around diplomatic circles that the US Embassy in Moscow is having to fly in its own supplies of hard currency to pay running costs and staff salaries now that Russia has stopped converting

Apparently, according to the cocktail circuit rumour, a Boeing 747 stuffed full of dollar bills flies in once a week.

A spokesman for the US Embassy in London is unimpressed with this suggestion. "They've always flown in dollars to cover running costs. I've no idea how the current crisis would effect that. I would imagine they would need fewer dol-

in order to get a definitive reaction to this rumour, I should ring the US Embassy in Moscow itself.

On doing so yesterday all I ous over Arne Lundberg and managed to get through to was Johan Holmsved by a score of a continuous and deafening 4-1 to take the Veuve Clicquot engaged tone. Perhaps they Cup in a match held at Ex- are busy changing this week's

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES	INTEREST RATES	LIFFE FINANCIAL FUTURES	INDUSTRIAL METALS
Sterling Dollar D-Mark Spot 1 month 3 month Spot	UK Germany US Japan Base 7.50% Discount 2.50% Prime 8.50% Discount 0.50% France Lombard 4.50% Discount 5.00% Belgium	· ·	LME (\$/tonne) Cash Org 3 month Chg LMEstode Chgx
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Bird's finger of destiny moves on

IT HAS been an emotional summer for Harold Dennis Bird. Having turned 65 in April, he is compelled. after 28 white-coated years, to hang up his trademark white cap and step down from the rota of firstclass umpires. Every match, usually his last appearance at one ground or another, has had a sense

His home near Barnsley has filled up with mementoes, new ones every week, and he has shed a few tears before moving on to the next show of appreciation and affection. Today, however, the journey reaches its end.

The meeting of Yorkshire and Warwickshire at Headingley is Dickie Bird's final swansong. He will stand in the Championship match between the sides and bow out for good by officiating in the AXA League fixture between the same teams on Sunday. He does not expect to remain dry-eyed.

"I feel very sad, very emotional, but the laws of cricket say an umpire must retire at 65, so there's nothing you can do about it," he said.

But it will leave a big hole in my life. I've known nothing else but cricket. I've been married to the game, really. "I started at Headingley 50 years

ago, as a 15-year-old turning up to practise. It's nice that I'm finishing at Headingley, too, because I do have some happy memories of the place."

Then again, he has happy memories of almost every corner of the cricketing world, having achieved

winning the respect of players and his peers in all the nations where the game is played. Viv Richards called him "the best Test umpire I ever

"Wherever I go in the world, there are always friends, always invitations to dinner," he said, before reeling off a Who's Who of the game's most celebrated names. "I like to think it is because I gained

compliments.

"I shall miss that part of it most of all, the comradeship and friendship with players and with my fellow

consistently right – in decision-making than Bird. But he managed also to be a character, an entertainer, a figure of fun sometimes, almost to saw", and there are few higher the extent that no match he stood in could be regarded as complete without some incident to provoke the

known and loved.

repertoire of agitated twitches and sticulations for which he was Crowds would almost want there

to be a spectator in front of the sight screen, some unruly pigeons encroaching on to the wicket, or the reflected sun causing unwanted dazzle, just so they could see Dickie in a flap. In time, he acquired such

will never grow stale.

He feels humble but proud at the same time. "I'm very grateful to the British public, to the cricket public everywhere, really, for giving me such wonderful support. They have been fantastic to me."

In 1986 he was awarded the MBE, which he values as his most treasured possession, even ahead of his

three World Cup medals. Bird stood in 66 Test matches and 92 one-day internationals, both record numbers. Among them are countless indelible memories. For a man so steeped in cricket's past,

entirely positive, even approving.

"I don't think there is a lot wrong with the game," he said. "The system in England, I think, is just about right now, if we leave it as it is, Four-day cricket is the right format for the Championship, although we must play on good pitches. There are too many matches that end in two or three days, which is not fair to the members and no good for the

"You have to prepare the best possible surface so that spin bowlers come into the game on the last day. "And the electronic aids have been a boon, as well as making um-

introduce any more. Using fixedposition cameras is fine for run-outs, stumpings, close catches, but I don't think you can use them for

lbws or bat-pad because you can't be 100 per cent sure from a television picture." He does not even share the common despair over England's future

in the international pecking order "We'll produce good players again," he said. "I believe these things come in cycles. There are a lot of good young players coming through and as long as we don't over-coach them, as long as we don't coach out their natural game, in three or four

successful team.

And if they do not, he intends to be around to stand corrected. Much as he loves the 17th century cottage in Staincross in which he has realle his home - "John Wesley once slept there, you know, in my-room!"—he cannot see himself spending too much time there, alone with his memories.

"If I have good health - and I hope that I do - I'll go all around the world watching cricket. I've known nothing else all my life; always lived out of a suitcase since I was 19. That's why I never married, because it would not have been fair to a woman to subject her to that kind of life."

There will be tears on Sunday. inevitably, although it will be a while. he says, before the full impact of

retirement brings itself to bear From now until Christmas, I really busy. My book is coming out in paperback and I'll be going all round the country, doing signing ses-sions. And there is a video, too, about my Test matches.

Then in January I've been invited to Australia, to watch the Ashes series.

"But I know it will be April when it hits me hard, when it is time to get everything organised for the new season and I'll not be going off. That will be the most difficult time."

Nonetheless, he accepts the change in his life without bitterness. "I'm a big Christian; I go to church regularly and I have a strong faith. I know I have been lucky. The good Lord gave me a gift and I hope have not let him down."



IT COULD ONLY HAPPEN TO DICKIE BIRD 1970 Spotted by a police-

man scaling a wall at The Oval after arriving at 6.30am for his first um-

1973 England v West Indies, Lord's. Trapped on field after stands are evacuated during a bomb scare, taking refuge sitting on top of the pitch

1980 England v Australia Centenary Test, Lord's, Bird is barracked by abusive MCC members who are angry at the delayed start to the third

1987 England v Pakistan. Old Trafford. Has to be replaced by Jack Birkenshaw after a throw by Sailm Malik hits him on the knee.

1988 England v West Indies, Headingley. Forced to sus-pend play when water begins to come up through the ground from a blocked drain.

1990 England v New Zealand, Trent Bridge, Persuaded by Allan Lamb, who is batting, to look after his mobile phone, which rings in Bird's pocket in the middle of an over. The caller is lan

1995 England v West Indies, Old Trafford. Suspends play because of dazzle from a



Lancashire secure magic of Muralitharan

LANCASHIRE HAVE confirmed the for Sri Lanka's home Test series off-spinners in the world and there signing of Muttish Muralitharan, the Sri Lankan off-spinner, as their overseas player for next season. The 27-year-old bowier replaces Wasim Akram, the Pakistan all-rounder, who has been at the club since 1987 and has led them to both the NatWest Trophy and the AXA

League title this season. Muralitheren, who was pursued by two other counties, including Kent, has signed a one-season contract and will report to Old Trafford when Sri Lanks's World Cup commitments come to an end next summer. He will only be available to play half of Lancashire's Championship matches and two thirds of their one-day games and could be called away again at the end of the season

against Australia

Wasim, meanwhile, has announced himself open to offers from other counties after Lancashire's decision: "If someone wanted to sign me for next year and the year 2000 then that would be great, but I don't want to hang around playing after that," he said "Tve had some fantastic times with Lancashire and I'm going to miss the place so much, the club, the dressing-room and being part of it all. I don't think I've got a

single had memory of my time here. "I wanted to stay but they decided on Murali, which is fine by me, and if we can win our third trophy at the end of the season then that

would be a dream come true. "Muralitharan is one of the best

is no doubt he's a match-winner I think he will fit in well in the Lancashire dressing-room because he's very bubbly and he's always laugh-

tory earlier this month by claiming 16 wickets for 220 runs, the fifth-best figures of all time, to help Sri Lanka complete an emphatic 10-wicket victory over England at The Oval. He has taken 68 wickets in eight Tests this year - more than any other

Leicestershire's hopes of winring a second County Championship title in three years are being threatened by an injury to Alan Mulially said: "It's becoming an exciting suffered a knee injury against Gamtheir fast left-arm bowler - and the

unpredictable English weather. Mullally, who will tour Australia this winter with England, could miss his side's penultimate game against bottom of the table Essex at Grace ing," Wasim said.

Road today win a causuum a management of have a fitness test this morning before a decision is made. James

Ormand is standing by. Essex, champions in 1996, lead Surrey - who they face at The Oval in the final game of the season next week - by five points, with treblechasing Lancashire three points back in third

Rain and high winds are expected in the Leicester area over the next four days and the Leicestershire manager, Jack Birkenshaw, finish to the season but because of organ on Sunday.

the weather forecast, things are very much in the lap of the Gods. Hopefully, we'll get a fortnight's decent weather for everyone and may the best team win.

"It's in our hands now and we've got to play like we can. Essex have got some useful players and they'll be looking to redeem themselves after losing the Sunday League. They certainly won't roll over."

At the Riverside, Durham take on Surrey with the 26-year-old Martin Saggers given his first appearance of the season. He takes over from Marc Symington, who made his Championship debut against Derbyshire, while Steve Harmison returns in place of Neil Killeen, who

Gloucestershire are expected to keep faith with the side that defeated Northamptonshire inside two days as they aim to keep their faint Championship title hopes alive against Middlesex at Lord's today.

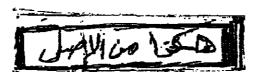
The Bristol club are in fourth place, 21 points behind Leicestershire, and their attack will be spearheaded by Courtney Walsh, who has 89 first-class wickets and is looking to take 100 in a season for

the second time. Yorkshire's Darren Gough will ain be on the injured list as Dickie again be on the mutreu ust as Darket Bird umpires in his final first-class match when Warwickshire visit Headingley Brian Lara, the visiting captain, is out of the game with an injured left knee, and is replaced by Trevor Penney.



Muralitharan: One-season deal

■ Shane Warne, the Australia leg-spinner, hopes to be fit for the first Ashes Test against England in late November. He said the progression of his reconstructed shoulder was ahead of schedule.



Basketball: New Manchester coach is burdened with expectation while champions Leopards are ready to start afresh

Nurse must breathe life into Giants

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

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actions to

BILLY MIMS is the coach with nothing to lose and Nick Nurse the coach who dare not lose. Neither American, though, is inclined to totally agree with the popular view of their prospects for the Budweiser League season, which begins on Saturday. Minns opens Greater London

Leopards defence of the league championship with a squad so hassively rebuilt over the summer that he can hardly be burdened with the expectation of winning a third successive title.

Only Robert Youngblood returns from his key players, but Mims said: "The popular outlook might be that we have nothing to lose, but we have the league championship and we don't intend losing that.

Robert hasn't come back here for a fifth season with any other objective than winning a third title."

Nurse, the former Birmingham Bullets coach, has the formidable task of improving on a season of under-achievement at Manchester Giants and producing results worthy of the magnificent 18,000 seat Nynex ena, one of the largest arenas k Europe.

The 31-year-old has recruited an intimidating offensive line-up, including Makeeba Perry and John White from Leopards, Tony Dorsey from Birmingham and Tony Holley from Thames Valley Tigers.

Last season, under Jim Brandon, Giants scraped into the play off quarter-finals with virtually the last shot of the regular season, but Nurse is not weighed down by expectations of transforming the club

instantly into league winners.
"I'd rather be the favourites than a 100-1 long shot," said the man from Iowa. "With names rassment caused."

like Dorsey, Holley and White on our roster I understand why people make us favourites, but it's going to be a long, hard sea-

son in a tough league." While Nurse is putting his faith in players who already have pages of league stats to their names, Mims is turning the clock back to his first championship team, with a largely unknown line up

Imagine Arsène Wenger planning Arsenal's defence of the Premiership after offloading Marc Overmars, Dennis Bergkamp, Nicolas Anelka, and Patrick Vieira. Four of Leopards' five starters have left -Perry, White, Eric Burks and Ryan Cuff - plus Michael Defoe and Jason Crump.

Mims said: "Perry, White and Burks wanted to earn more elsewhere and that's fine. We run on a tight budget and weren't getting into any bidding

"Arsène Wenger says a successful team turns small names into big names and that's what we did with White and Burks. They were unknowns when we brought them to this country and Leopards turned them into big names.

"Last season we became the first Budweiser team to win back-to-back titles, but we still underachieved. We've kept the

CORRECTION

Due to a production error, vesterday's article on Sky TV's cov-erage included a comment by Richard Taylor which was incorrectly attributed to the Basketball League chief executive, Mike Smith. Mr Smith commented only on Sky's coverage and made no reference to BBC coverage during the interview

players who are hungry for more success, Robert Youngblood and Brian Moore, but we have no superstars and a bunch of new players hungry to prove

Apart from a new quartet of Americans, Mims has made key English signings. The muscular and aggressive David Attewell, 6ft 8inches, and Stedroy Baker joined from Derby, plus a potential recruit for the national team to make the England coach Laszlo Nemeth's nerves tingle with expectation.

Ben Baum is a 6ft 11in, 23year-old born in Lakenheath. Suffolk, whose American education took him to two of the most powerful basketball schools, Oklahoma State and the University of New Mexico. He started in all six of Leopards' pre-season games. Mims said: "This is the deepest team Ive ever had."

Giants may not match the Leopards' depth, but they have an offensive line-up to make opponents quake. Dorsey (26.1 points per game) and White (24.8) were first and third in the scoring charts last season, while Perry (11.8 rebounds) and Holley (11.7) were the top two in the rebound stats.

But with Holley also averages more than 21 points per game, will Nurse's three big guns see enough of the ball to stop their shooting hands twitching from under-use?

Nurse said: "I don't see a problem in keeping three big scorers happy and most teams have a three-pronged offense."

Nurse is equally aware of the need to keep the crowd happy. "This arena needs and deserves a good team. It was disappointing and embarrassing last season that they produced so poorly out on the floor."



blood shows the shooting skills that Greater London Leopards are hoping will guide them to a third league title this season

GREATER LONDON LEOPARDS

Last season's league champions in name only as the captain. Robert Youngblood, leads virtually a new team. Billy Milms unearths 6ft 1 linch Englishman Ben Baum at University of New Mexico, as well as signing David Attewell and Stedroy Baker from Derby and four new Americans – Bryan Williams, David Kruse, Paul Burke and Royce Olney.

BIRMINGHAM

The play-off champions are expected to confirm a business merger this week with Nottingham Panthers ice hockey lub. The Americans Mark Robinson and Anthony Harris replace Tony Dorsey (Man-chester) and H L Coleman, comes in for 6ft 11ins Chris Haslam (Greece).

NEWCASTLE

EAGLES Craig Lynch has seven

es, plus Raiph Bialock (a 96/97 Eagle) and Corey Jack-son, from Chester, Peter Scantlebury, who already holds the league record for most successful shots (3,245) will set the record for most appearances (467) in Eagles' opener against Leopards on Saturday.

SHEFFIELD SHARKS

League Trophy holders: John Amaechi has moved on and the coach. Chris Finch, brings back impressive duo Todd Cauthorn and Wilbur Johnson, plus Terrell Myers, whose three-pointer won the trophy. Travis Conian will be an eyecatcher at Point, plus Italian-born Matt Gaudio.

THAMES VALLEY TIGERS

National Cup holders; coach Paul James loses Tony Holley to Manchester after five years as a Tiger, but brings back Casey Arena, Jason Siemon, John McCord and adds American Stewart Clark, Portuguese Francesco Mircolino and England's Bryan Balser (Derby).

LONDON TOWERS Merged with Crystal Palace: on coach Lino Frattin replaces Kevin Cadle (Sky TV) and has England international Martin Henlan back after two years in Greece, alongside returning Danny Lewis and new Americans Dwayne Morton and Malcolm Leak (both with NBA experience) Eric Kubel

and Ray Schultz (Watford).

DERBY STORM

The new coach Bob Donewald (Leicester) joins Storm after losing David Attewell and Stedroy Baker (Leopards), Balser (Tigers) and Ted Berry and Brendon Graves (Edinburgh) American DJ Bosse sent home after suffering double jaw fracture in practice. They have new Americans in Rico Alderson, former Rider Nate Reinking and John Tresvant.

MANCHESTER

The former Birmingham coach, Nick Nurse, has assembled the pre-season title favourites, signing Tony Dorsey (Birmingham), Tony Holley (Thames Valley). Makeeba Perry and John White (Leopards) and American Porter Roberts.

LEICESTER CITY RIDERS

Former player and assistant coach Dave Harris replaces Donewald and brings back Americans Billy Singleton, Gene Waldron, JaRon Boone, plus new US Player Eric Moore.

Robbie Peers inherits coaching

role from Mike Burton and has Canadian backcourt pairing of Titus Channer and Andrew Mavis, plus American Greg Meldrum and the ex-England centre Jason Crump (Leopands).

WORTHING BEARS The new coach, Chris Pullem, tempts back veteran Steve Nelson to Join Greek Nick Chatzinikolis, Americans Jon Gaines, Larry Coates, James Doyle and Canadian Andy Tyler.

MILTON KEYNES

Tough assignment for rookie coach Andre Alleyne in fran-chise up-rooted to Buckinghamshire after finishing bottom of the league for the past three seasons in Watford and Hemel. Signed Americans Michael Brown and Broderick Bob and Angolan international David Dias.

EDINBURGH

New franchise under the former Manchester coach, Jim Brandon. Their pre-season was hampered by injuries to Brendon Graves (Derby) and Marek Powlak and they signed Ted Berry (Derby), naturalised Icelander Jonathan Bow, Americans Brad Wedel (Towers) and Dameon Page (Tigers).

Teoms listed in order they

Doubt over Dallaglio's role

RUGBY UNION

By Chris Hewett

THE LAST time Lawrence Dallaglic played a game of rugby, it was in front of a 60,000 plus cup final audience at Twickenham. His likely return for Wasps against Swansea this weekend will generate rather less interest at the turnstiles - a good 90 per cent less, in fact - but last season's England captain still wields enough clout to ensure the presence of a national

selector at Loftus Road. Dallaglio has fully recovred from the shoulder condion that denied him the opportunity, if that is the right word, to tour all three southern hemisphere superpowers during the summer Indeed, he

will be in more discomfort from burning ear syndrome following the sharp criticism aimed in his direction by Clive Woodward, the England coach, who was flabbergasted by the versatile flanker's decision to play through his injury in a futile attempt to earn some silverware for his under-achieving club.

There is not a chance of a fit Dallaglio being omitted from Woodward's first-choice side, even though Ben Clarke's resurgent form and Richard Hill's return from back surgery has confused the back row selection. However, Dallaglio's grip on the captaincy depends ning over the next three weeks.

Two other international Wasps, the stand-off Alex King and the second row Simon tract a 10,000 gate. "The tele-

out in Sunday's "rebel" crossborder fixture after joining Dallaglio among the unavailables for last weekend's Premiership opener at Bath. King, who toured with England in a half-fit state underwent his umnteenth knee operation in July, while Shaw, who missed the trip Down Under through back trouble, is

also under consideration. No one at Wasps is anticipating a sell-out on Sunday; the Londoners played a rather more meaningful Heineken Cup match against the same opposition last season and scarcely on his hitting the ground run- Road's bars. But this weekend's or lack of it, for the liking of his

Shaw, are also expected to turn phone hasn't stopped ringing tory at Bedford obviously made a few people sit up and take notice," Gareth Davies, Cardiff's chief executive, said.

The Welshmen are poised to re-sign one of their favourite sons, the former international full-back Mike Raver from Bedford before the end of the week. Rayer is a free agent after a prolonged contractual dispute.

There are no such squabbles over the transfer-listed Alex Codling's contract with Rich-mond. The England Under-21 can has been rather too vocal managed to fill one of Loftus on the subject of his selection. other Anglo-Weish encounter coach, John Kingston, who said between Cardiff and Saracens at the Arms Park is on course to at-Richmond will be moved on."

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Hoddle off pace

Sir: Ken Jones ("Pouting Ince lets the side down", 7 September) qualifies his assertion that Glenn Hoddle cannot be held to account for Ince's stupidity and <u>Beckham's petulance in</u> being sent off by saying that it is the coach who sets the standard of behaviour".

The trouble is that Mr Hoddle doesn't know what the standards are. Witness his saying at the time, and in his absurd book, that Beckham didn't deserve a red card (why wasn't he kept informed of the changing currents in the World

Cup?) It is true that Beckham's retaliation fell short of "misconduct of an extreme pature", the term David Ager uses in his refereeing book to define violent conduct, the second of seven sending-off offences. Beckham was responding to a quadruple offence by Sime-

one, the violent tackle-frombehind-element also requiring, according to Ager's book, a sending-off. Certainly the two players should have received the same punishment.

Such equity, Mr Hoddle should have known, would be unlikely in the World Cup. The Beckham and Ince cases suggest that imposing a code of behaviour on millionaire players is beyoud the fragile Mr Hoddle - come back, Sir Alf. M MEADMORE Landon

Real thumbs down

Sir: I have seen the poll about the European Super League (31 August) in which you reported:

"In a new MORI poll, 70 per cent of British football fans say that replacing the current Uefa club competitions with a midweek European Super League would be a 'good thing'. Only 18 per cent are against." This gives

the impression that Real Football Fans like the idea of the Super League. However, having read the

description of a football fan as being "those who watch football on television at least once a month (excluding the World Cup) or who would be interested to watch matches between the top European clubs", I and many other Real Football Fans would be interested if you conducted a proper survey into people who actually

I am sure that if you asked this question outside football grounds (that's where you find football fans) then the result would be an overwhelming thumbs down for this pro-

attend matches.

I hope you are able to release the results of any proper polls of fans, which would destroy the myth that the money-men in football are trying to instil. BOB GEAR Heybridge, Essex

The high cost of two tickets

Sir, In 1972, aged 10, I attended my first day of Test cricket, the Saturday of the Lord's Test versus Australia. Bob Massie finished the match with 16 England

On Monday, 31 August, after an absence of 26 years, I attended my second day of Test cricket. Muttiah Muralitharan finished the match with 16 England

In return for a modest annual payment, I am prepared to stay away from all future England Test matches. MIKE SHEARING

to know I wasn't entirely lost to cricket in the intervening years. In 1979 (Latymer v Tiffin) I got Alec Stewart out fifth

PS: Readers may be relieved

Searle fights on in tough test

By Hugh Matheson in Cologne

THE WORLD Championships entered the repechage day with bright sun and a following wind and produced six wins and one second place for British crews to allow all to progress straight to finals or semi-finals.

The three single scullers dominated their repechage races and placed themselves for a good semi-final draw. Greg Searle moves forward to a tough semi-final line-up which contains three former champions, two others having been

In the light single sculls, Peter Haining, still something of an unknown quantity in his comeback year, looks a probable for the top six, and Guin Batten might make it three from three for the first time ever.

The women's pair of Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop won the summer season cumulative event, the Fisa World Cup, and seemed to come back to better shape in the second half of easy to read-they go as fast as their heat when they stormed back on terms with the world champions after a slow first

Yesterday the race showed the same pattern, with the Blackie and Bishop again slow off the start in third place. After 500m they pulled back the Australians to reach half-way in second spot, but allowed the Russian pair, third in the world a year ago, to gain another second on the clock in the third quarter before closing sharply on them over the last 300m.

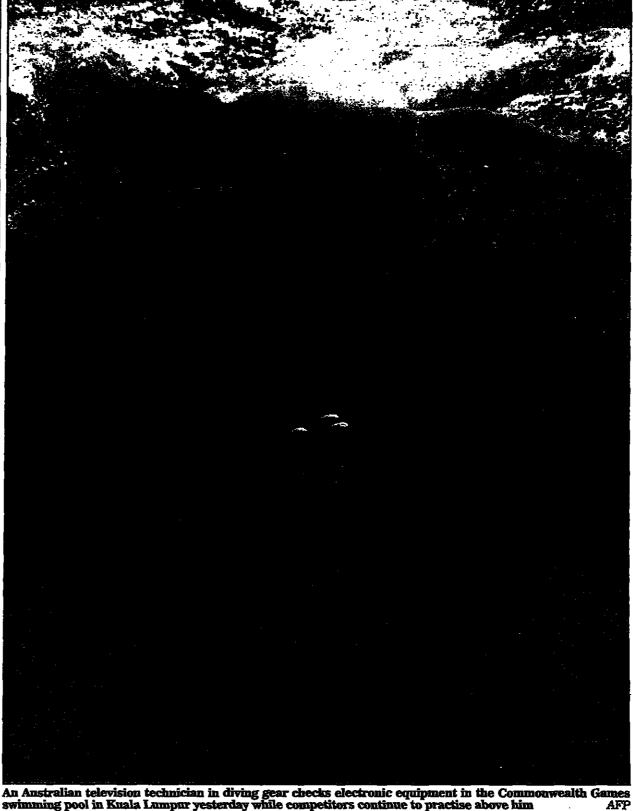
They look comfortable and strong and have shown plenty of real pace and fitness through the season, especially with their trademark sprint finish. It is frustrating that they seem to have only one race pattern which the others are wise enough to counter with simple tactics of their own. However, they are now in the first-ever final for either and have noth-

ing to lose. The men's pair of Stephen Williams and Fred Scarlett in their novice season at senior in-

they can for as long as possible. This placed them eighth in Britain at the April trials, but with the leading pairs deployed in the four and eight they have been given the task of matching the achievements of Steven Redgrave and Matthew Pinser

Their early-season form in Europe suggested a high place in the small final for seventh to 12th, but yesterday they shot into the lead off the start, taking two seconds off the Australians, who won the coxiess fours gold in Atlanta and Barcelona. They then dominated the race, beating the Dutch into third place and setting a time 12 seconds faster than any of the other repechages. Suddenly a place in the top six looks possible and de-

The double scull of Colin Greenaway and Simon Goodbrand took their cue from the pair and beat the Australian double which took silver at the Worlds a year ago. It places the



Paul 'rejected bigger offers' to join brother

By DAVE HADFIELD

HENRY PAUL has turned down bigger offers from other clubs in order to play with his brother for the Bradford Bulls.

The elder Paul, who decided last week to leave Wigan after four years, will play alongside his brother, Robbie, at Odsal after agreeing a three-year contract with Bradford.

"Henry did receive better offers from other clubs, but his desire to play with his brother and to play in front of the fabulous Bulls' supporters were join the Bulls," said David McKnight, the agent shared by the

The two have played to-

Robbie next season in a half- mitments to complete before he back combination that has the can join Bradford and has potential to be the most excitng in the game.

"I am delighted to have him on board for next year. It is all part of the plan to make sure that this club remains successful," said the Bradford coach, Matthew Elliott, as the signing was announced yes-

The reigning Super League Champions have lost five of their last six games and are not certain to qualify for the playoffs, but the prospect of the Paul brothers in tandem is calculated to mollify any disillusionmajor factors in his decision to ment among Bradford fans.

"Whilst results this season have been disappointing, our decision to sign Henry Paul is proof of our intention to remain gether for New Zealand, but at the head of the game," said years the elder at 24, is ex- Wigan player was not on their battle between the two organ-

pledged to maintain his form as igan chase the Bulls' title. Halifax have received a

boost for the play-offs with the news that Martin Moana could make a quick recovery. The loose forward from New Zealand missed Sunday's victory over Sheffield and was thought to be out for the season after suffering a hairline fracture of his forearm. But Moana is already out of plaster, will train later this week and could play against Salford on Sunday

The game's trade union has split in two, with the Rugby League Players' Association coming out from under the umbrella of the GMB and setting up an independent company. The GMB intends to continue have never appeared in the same club side. Henry, two leg, who had earlier insisted the could lead to a recruitment same club side. Henry, two leg, who had earlier insisted the could lead to a recruitment set them up for a semi-final four other players are injured. replacement unlikely, it looks as years the elder at 24, is ex- Wigan player was not on their battle between the two organ
A win against Canada snould unear captain, returns, pour tows, set them up for a semi-final four other players are injured. replacement unlikely, it looks as years the elder at 24, is ex- Wigan player was not on their battle between the two organ
Jones, M. Williamson, Z. Jones,

Hacker touches down as Wales coach

BY BILL COLWILL in Kuala Lumpur

ENGLAND OPENED their

Commonwealth Games camnaign in the Bukit Jalil National Sports Stadium last night against Canada. They go on to play Kenya on Sunday, followed by Malaysia then Pakistan in their pool games.

pool to avoid a semi-final against the favourites Australia.

Canada will certainly stretch England's resources. In a playoff game in the World Cup in May, England escaped with a 2-1 win thanks to two penalty corner goals from Calum Giles. The Canadians have had

bad luck since the World Cup.

today against Trinidad and will Williamson, who coached be looking for better luck than they have had so far.

The coach, David Bunyan, who last month led them to next year's European finals when they won a qualifying tournament in Prague, decided not to go to Malaysia because of his fear of flying and In addition to the retirement of failed to arrive at the airport.

Wales a couple of years ago, will share the coaching. ENGLAND SOUAD: B blaugh (capt) Woods (both Southgate), J. Wyatt, Pears, S Mason (all Reading), G For

Pollard saved by Nicol's gesture

COMMONWEALT GAMES

PETER NICOL, Scotland's gold medal prospect, yesterday explained his reasons for giving up a first-round bye to allow Guyana's Regan Pollard a place in squash history.

This Commonwealth Games is the sport's debut and, as world No 1 and top seed, Nicol will play the first match, despite already being awarded a place in the second round. With Pollard arriving to find

he had not been fully accredited and was therefore out of the competition Nicol, the only man with a bye, agreed to waive that

He said: "I thought that was a bit unfair that he should be denied the chance to compete in the Games so, despite know ing nothing about him, not even his name at the time, I agreed. "If he turns out to be a great

luck to him, you have to be prepared to meet anyone in the draw and he should always have been part of that draw.". The Namibian sprinter, Frankie Fredericks, may be reconsidering his decision to

undiscovered talent then good

boycott the Games, the coach of his main rival said. "I still think there may be rethinking on the part of Frankie. I believe he may show up," said the Trinidad athletics manag-

er. Ken Doldron. Fredericks, the Olympic silver medallist in both the 100 and 200 metres, withdrew from the Games after the Namibian Prime Minister, Hage Geinge said the country's new world boxing champion, Harry Simon, was the country's greatest athlete as Fredericks had

never won Olympic gold. '... The Commonwealth Games' general assembly has decided to limit the number of participating sports in the future to 14 as they struggle to compete against an ever growing international sports calendar.

Other changes decided at the assembly include having a minimum of two and a maximum of four team sports. A group calling itself the The Press Institute for Non-Tectotallers (PINT) said yesterday it would stage a protest against the high beer prices at the Mint hotel which houses the

media centre. The hotel swift:

ly countered by introducing a two-for-one happy hour

Fan puts McGwire homer in \$1m class

BASEBALL

MIKE DAVIDSON of St Louis will not accept even \$1 million referring to his long foul ball on (£0.6m) for the ball that Cardinals' Mark McGwire equalled being No 61. "As soon as it left Roger Maris' single-season home run record in the 3-2 vic- the ball probably hooked foul tory over the Chicago Cubs at after the pole. But I knew at that Busch Stadium on Monday. The ball ricocheted off the

mezzanine level and into the aloft as he watched the ball and lower level of the left-field seats, where 28-year-old Davidson found the ball under a seat like I was in awe," McGwire and "held on to it for dear life". said, Cubs' Sammy Sosa, who He said he would return the historic memento to McGwire.

With the Maris family in attendance McGwire turned on Cardinals' 144th game. He a 1-1 fastball from Cubs' starter moved past Babe Ruth, who Mike Morgan in the first inning. drilling it 430 feet just inside the left-field foul pole for his 61st the single-season record Maris homer of the season, equalling Maris's 1961 feat.

McGwire knew as soon as he hit the ball that he had equalled play the Cubs again last night.

the record, "Yeah, I knew today

clapped quietly in the field.

time - what a feeling that was." started his home run trot, knowing it was gone. "It was almost

McGwire tied the mark in the had 60 homers in 154 games in 1927, and has 19 games to break hit his 61st homer on the final day of a 162-game season. The Cardinals were due to

CARLE & WIRELESS

just because it was a lot higher than yesterday," said McGwire, my bat, I put my hands up and

McGwire held both arms has 58 homers this season,

KEMPTON

HYPERION 1.45 Dashiba (nb) 2.20 Bomb Alaska 2.50 Gracious Plenty 3.25 Tissifer 3.55 Crystal Charm 4.25 Joli's Son 4.55 Volla Premiere

GOING: Soft (penetrometer 5-4) STALLS: Straight course - sten side; remainder - Inside, DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low 61 and 6
III Right-hand course. Separate straight course for Si and 61 rect III Course is on A306 at Suribury, Station adicine course, ADMR
SION: Club £14 (17 to 21 year-cids £6); Paddock £10; Saver Ri £5. Under-16s from CAR PARK; Members £2; rest free.
ELEADING TRAINERS: R Harmon 33-268 (123%), Sir M Stou 17-99 (172%), J Durdon 15-120 (133%), R Charlton 13-68 (121%)
LEADING JOCKEYS: J Reid 30-161 (186%), R Hughes 16-
(184%), S Sanders 10-111 (9%), T Sprake 9-68 (13.2%). FAVOURITES: 154-481 (32%).
LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Tiselfor (325) and Atlantic De tiny (3.55) have been sent 245 miles.

П	.45	EBF MAIDEN STAKES (C added 2YO fillies 6f	LASS D) £5,00
Ľ		'」 added 2YO fillies 6f	
1	3	CALCAVELLA (11) M Kette 8 ft	T Sprate 1
2	0	CHALOUPE (79) H Candy 8 11	C Rudler 1
3		COFFEE CREAM B Machin 8 17	W d O'Consor 1
4		CRUSTY LILY L Greenick B 11	
5	33430	DASHEA (20) D Beroth 8 tl	
6	40	DOMENANT DANCER (26) J HE 8 17	A Clark
7		FANTASTIC BELLE P Makes 8 17	
8		FRAPPEG Wagg 8 ff	
9		HELEN'S STARDUST W MAJE 8 11	
10	54	N TREE (32) P Cote 6 11	Devic O'Name (7) 11
12		LAUY PETRÁ V Spene 8 11	Paul Eddiny
12	0	LITTLE PIPPIN (716) G Balding 8 11	
13		MAYARO BAY (SE) R Hernon 8 11	
14		MEGA M Tompkins 8 tl	
15		MERECK (USA) P Chappie Hyern 6 11	
16	0	MIGHTINGALE (114) I Baking 8 11	
T		PHILATEUC LADY M Haynes 8 12	
В	00	PMF (11) B HBs 8 11	D Holland 1
19		HOSE CHOIX (USA) W Janus 8 17	
_		المسطوعات وأثاث	

BETTING: 9-4 historick, 8-1 Deshiba, 7-1 Frappe, 10-1 in Time, 12-1 Calcavelle, Plaf, 14-1 Dessionat Genoer, Mayero Bay, Nightingale, 18-1 others FORM VERDICT A potentially informative maiden, with market reference essential. The Filias' Mile entry Mirbeck and Grand Lodge's sister Rose.

Croke are newcomers to note, but DASHIBA has enough form, including on soft, to entitle her to the vote, despite a worrying salure at Sandown in July and the possibility that her low draw could count against her if there is a rush to the far side.

2.20 GEARHOUSE STRUCTURES H'CAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3YO 1m

ווו פוס מספט פוסט שוויים לם מספסם פוס וווו
1 5420 COUPLED (128) S C Williams 97G Content 13
2 -05000 CARBON (11) Lady Herries 95A Clark 6
3 1020 ROGER ROSS (12) (D) (BF) R Rover 94
4 000550 RON'S PET (21) (BP) R Herron 9.2
5 00005 YOUNG-UN (26) S Dow 9 TS Sandara 4
8 000460 COSMIC COUNTESS (11) M Janés 9 0
7 406460 THERD COUSIN (21) M Heaton-Ells 9 0
8 000000 HAKEEN (43) R Amstrong 90R Price 10 B
8 -2520 SILKEN DALLIANCE (31) Lord Hunfrigdon 9 0
10 62222 HIT THE SPOT (33) (0) (8F) W Hagges 8 12 D Holland 12
11 -80422 BOMB ALASKA (20) G Baking 8 12 S Drovine 18
12 355FOO WORTH THE EFFORT (14) M Tomplets & 12
TO 4,0500 THE MAGISTRATE (SE) M Blanshard & TOM Roberts 2
14 4520 MAITHEYA (12) CAMOR 88N Cartale 8
5 34436 MAI TAU (40) (8F) Mrs P Dutfield 8 5
18 5-0304 MARI-ELA (100) J Aerold 8 2C Rutter 15
17 00840- HATMAGE (426) P Burgoyme 7 12
8 0-000 FIFTH EMERALD (53) (0 BP) C Wal 7 12 _A McCartiny (3) 14
18 05255 CHEROSED (25) (D) Baris 7 to P Doe (5) 16
20 000503 TWOFORTEN (21) M Medgwick 7 tD
-20 declared -
Allebrusta materials for 10th, Term benefitten materials Terminates for 7th

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handlup weight: Twolorien 7st 7th. BETTING: 5-1 Roger Ross, 13-2 Bornio Alestos, 6-1 Rochs Pet, FR The Spot, 10-1 Mart-Ele., 12-1 Sillien Unillance, Mail Tel., Twolorien, 14-1 Olives

FORM VERDICT Reasons for opposing several in an open race. ROGER ROSS failed to justify involution at Goodwood last time but, previously on the upgrade, is worth amother chance with the soft ground in his favour. Hit The Spot and Somb Aleales have

_G Carter 8 RUACANA FALLS RUSA) P Cree - 6 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Ruscant Falls, 3-1 Ele Dest, 4-1 Assupures, Gradous Plac-ty, T-1 Assultion, 12-1 Bridst White

2.50 PSL STAKES (CLASS C) £7,250 added 2YO fillies 7f R Pdcs 2

-6 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Crystal Charm, 7-2 Greentest. Dealing, 7-1 Platachio, 12-1 Bodieri Migis

Peter Chappie-Hyerr, whose juveriles could hardly be running better, has a good line on two of his principal rivate in Elim Dust (through Centre Cartant) and Arranguma (through Keither Of Pearl). The Manton-trained RUACANA FALLS, like Elim Dust, holds the Group One Fillies' kille engagement and gets the artis out Constitute Distant.

3 25 TENSILE ONE STAKES (CLASS C)

.2:	£7,250 added 2YO 7f
1	TISSETER (5) M Johnston 9 1
0	SURTONS POLLY (14) R Ingram 8 to
	CITY GUILD G Baking 8 toS Drowne 2
	MAKE SAMMONS L. Grassick 8 10 Y Statlary 4
	SALFORD EXPRESS D Esworth 8 10
0	SUMMER BOUNTY (12) 8 His 8 10 Peut Edday 5
	YOUNG NINGS (USA) P Chapple Hyant & 10 Reid 3
	-7 deciared -
TENC:	5-4 Young Militer, 6-4 Tieslier, 8-1 Summer Bossete, 12-1 Sal

iord Express, 16-1 City Guild, 25-1 Million Stannong, 82-1 Buripes Folly

FORM VERDICT Not much angle for betting, though Treatter is clearly an in-dividual of potential, who did wall to make a winning debut over cavicas or potential, who do was to make a warming door over specific unconvention of thise days ago. The ground is a wors, however, and a chance is taken with SALFORD EXPRESS from a stable whose better youngsters treatably go well first time and a helf-brother to armen to Befine Anticle, who revolled in the soft. Young Nilver will be dangerous if the market speaks. nd bawony

3.55 GEARHOUSE GROUP SIRENIA STAKES (Listed) (A) £13,500 added 2YO 6f 2340 BODFARI MUKA (22) B His 8 tt ...

2330 BUJANE BOTO 22 STORE 6 TO PER BOTO 22 STORE STORE

FORM VERDICT An interesting race in which none of the apparent principals has form on soft going. If CRYSTAL CHARM is as effective on this ground as site was on good on her debut, she most be hard to best. Like Atlantic Destiny, she is among the acceptors for the Cheveley Park Stakes.

4.25 PROQUIP-GEARHOUSE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 4f - 20 decimed -BETTING: 7-1 Tyksyvor, Premier Lasgue, 8-7 Faky Knight, Joffe Sou, 10-1 Titopia, Happy Go Lucky, Swert Boy, Silvertown, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT Joll's Son, Billeddie and Premier League come here in form, but FAIRY KNIGHT is on a winning mark and has his ground.

4.55 OPTISCREEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$24,000 added 1m 6f 92yds 2000 PARADISE NAW (11) (2) CEgezná 100 Lemma à ODH JALIS (35) P Murphy 4 9 11 01-201 BURLINDI (45) A Candi 4 9 11 04-22 KORALDONA (27) G Bairing 5 9 9 9 4943 MALESTIC (9) Williams 3 9 2 MR
10 40540 KNNGS ASSENBLY (9) 3 G S-Outoure 8 8 70 AP P
10 40540 KNNGS ASSENBLY (9) 3 G S-Outoure 8 8 70 AP P
10 40540 ROMOUSTA D'OR (27) G Han 4 8 9 F No
12 40540 ROMOUSTA D'OR (27) G Han 4 8 9 F No
13 54056 JULI FLYBS (23) G M Haynes 4 8 7 C R
14 405503 SHERRIG DANCER (19) (2) S Dov 6 8 5 G C
BETTING: 11-2 Volla Premiera, 7-1 Jahb, Barundi, 8-1 Korekons pooled, Shining Dancer, 10-1 Mejestic, Roequists D'Or, 14-1 oth FORM VERDICT

YOULA PREMIERE could attli be reasonably treated after modest rise for his win in a week heat on soft at Hamilton.

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Going: Standard/Good to Soft 2.00: (m 2 selling handicap)

1. JAVA SHRINE — N Pollard 6-1

2. Bepetord — A McGlome 10-1

3. Superior Force — A Clark 15-1

Also ran: 1-4 tay Jubiles Scholer (4th), 6-1

Handidon, 7-1 Top Shelt, 8-1 Sociong, 9-1

Bye, 2-1 Buch Famchise (6th), 4-1 Typhon Lad, 19-1 Gold Cloper (5th), 20-1 Lift Boy, 23-1 Enchanting Eve.

13 ran, 1-1, Md. 2-4, 10, 14, (Wanner bay golding by Jesus Gold out of hony told, trained by P Eccles at Lembourn for Plough Tweny Ashton Keynes), lints: 27-20; 218-2, Tricast: 257-30. NPt. Errant. No bid for the winner.

L ALABACI _____R Hills 2-5 fav P. Trump Street ____R Cochrane 3-1 2. Trump Street _____R Cochrane 3-1 3. Valdini _____ N Pollard 25-1 Also ren: 9-1 Georgeth; 20-1 Canon Ornal (4th), 20-1 Gussanne, 25-1 Swing Job (6th), 50-1 Cocobay, Corne What May (5th), 66-1 Mare Stad. 19 ran. 2, 3, 3, 1/s, 1/4, (Winner brown filly by Finenties out of Statistic Ligited by J Dun-loo at Anualet for Hamdan All Mattourn) lop at Arundel for Hamdan Al Meidoum). Rea: £140: £110, £120, £330, DF: £170, CSF: op at Arundel for Hamdan Al Ma

3.00: (712yo nursey handicap)
1. SWEET COMPLIANCE_N Pollard 20-1
2. Ghits _______R Cochrane 6-1
3. Kuralang ______M Fendon 14-1

Also ram: 8-1 fav Glestonbury, 7-1 Jack Goodman, 8-1 Enflade (8th), Eriths Chill Wind, 9-1 Chief Abbe, Magic Light, 12-1 En-chanted Isla, Lement (8th), Miss Take, Proud Pichare, 16-1 Danny Deever, 20-1 Di-emond Geazae, Hill Storm. 17 ran. 4, 3½, nk, ½, 9. (Winner cheatmat Rily by Satissam out of Salnisto, trained by P Shekespeere for Miss Hyde), Toke: \$4130; 5730, £210, £520, £290. DF: \$19770. CSP: £44525. Tricest: £165639. NR: Gracien Take.

Σ145.25. Tricast: £1,656.39. NR; Gracian Tale. 3.30: (6/2yo median auction maiden stakes) AN BANDIT _R Hootes 11-10 to

18 ren. 6.2 st-hd. 4.3 (Winner bey colt by First Trump out of Sound Of The San, trained by R Harmon, at East Eveningh for the Lu-cayen Study Tokes 52.20; £120, £130, £440.

Cayan Stud). Tota: 52. DF: 64.50. CSF: 54.5

20-1 Topton, 50-1 Domute,

RACING RESULTS 14 ram. 2/h, 2, 1/k, 1/k, hd. (Winner ches nut gelding by Indian Ridge out of Aunti Gladys, trained by J Farathaws at Newmarks for Ferrily Man Permanathip, Total: 5480 5180, 5170, 5330. DF: 5700. CSP: 57727. Tricest: 51483. Tiflecta: 521240. NR: Apolio Red, Be My Wish, Free Opton, Super Monarch.

Also ran: 7-1 Scenic Beauty (4th), 12-1 Miraculous Guest (6th), 18-1 At My Com-mend (5th), 20-1 Kazzoud, Scenic Larly, 25-1 Sentiaging. 9 ran. 4, nk, 5, ½, 6. (Winner bay Bily by Red Rensom out of Hinjagold, trained by J Gos-den at Neumarket for Hamdon Al Meldouri, Rote: £130; £100, £180, £250, DF: £170, £357

£180 DF: £1280 CSF: £2821 NF: Kirrino.

LEICESTER Going: Good to Soft

GOIAG: GOOD to Soft

2.10: 1. ASHBOURNE PAT (G Bardwal)
19-1; 2. Rainayeb 5-2; 3. Secta Denser; 25-1
13 ran, 9-4 few Najn A Beher; 17, 3%, (J
Pessoe, Newmarkel), Yone, 24-50; 250, 510, 5350. DF: 55770. CSP: 25128.
240: 1. MALCHIK (M Roberts) 25-1; 2. Misse Cody 3-2; 1 fast; 3. Unite Heavy 10-1; 4. Shave's Hat 9-2; it tax 19 ran, 4, 1%, (F) Howling, Godarining, Rober 548-40; 5720, 510, 6220, 5110. DF: 270.770. CSP: 25225; Tricant; 5198-90. DF: 270.770. CSP: 25225; Tricant; 5198-90. DF: Lady Jerse, 3.10: 1. King UNO (W Supple) 7-1; 2. Petitle Densesons 8-1; 3. Critical Art 3-2; 4. Celandine 15-1 18 ran, 5-1 fax Kess Almere, 1, %, (E Alson, Longier), Tober 5200; 5207, 5207, 5270, 5270, 5270; 5271, 5270. DF: 52830; CSP; 55404.
Tricant; 5373-56 NF: Cavardiet, Robelfont 3-40: 12 Misse Fara 18-1; 3. Andelien 9-4 fax 17 ran, Stat. 1, 92 (EAMISS) HB: (J Field) 3-1; 2. Misse Fara 18-1; 3. Andelien 9-4 fax 17 ran, Stat. 124, (St Michael Stone, Newmorked, Tober 52640; E130, 040, 200, DF: 5200, CSP: 24675.

4.10: 1. CULZEAN (Dane O'Neil) 9-2; 2. Lover's Leep 10-1; 3. Indian Lodge 14-1 15 ratu. 3-1 for Fort William (60), 3, 3, (R Han-non, East Everleigh), Tota: £870; £240, £280, £430, . DF: £8630, CSF: £4848. 2430. DF: 19850. CSF: 19848. 4,40: 1. EASYCALL (M Tabbut) 9-4; 2. Ref-erencium 12-1; 3. Thamkegiring 7-1.9 ran. 2-1 tor 'la Malak (198); 4, rk. (B Meeten, Lem-bourn). NF: Almaty. 8.10: 1. BROOKI-CUSE LADY (J Nichuley) 5-1; 2. Ron's Round 7-2 far; 3. Gueget-mation 9-1; 4. Tag Fen 9-2. 18 ran. 1%, 4. fan Williams. Alexbrarch: There 5787.

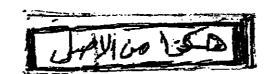
INSURON 9-1; 4. Flag Fen 9-2-16 ran. 174, 1/4. (Sin Williams, Alveohurch). Tota: £780; 5290, £180, 52-70, £170. DF: £1270, CSF-£1806. Titcast: £2821. NF: Sione Fildge. 5.40: 1. NUICHALIF (I. Deticel) 3-1; 2. Delfar Law 12-1; 3. Deal Fair 5-4 fax. 14 ran. 3, 2. (D Loder, Newmarks). Tota: £370; £220, £360. £170. DF: £3130. £28: £38.88.

Place 6: £23569. Place 5: £8219. NEWCASTLE Going: Good

2.20: 1. THREE GREEN LEAVES (J Fan-2.5tr 1. Inflice: Green Leaves; (J. min-ning) 11-5; 2. Swyndroff Piessure 16-1; 2. Sameon's Lilly 12-1.7 ran. 6-4 fav Samdar-lag, 3. hd. (M. Johnston), Tota: \$1.90; £2.20, 2.700. UP; 22:30. CS; 52:29, 2.5tr 1. CARTMEL PARK (K. Darley) 8-11 fav; 2. Shirley Not 13-8; 3. Belle Of Hearts 10-1. 6 ran. 2, ½. (J. Berry), Toke: \$1.50; \$1.00 £1.00 DF: £1.20 CSP: £2.22 3.20: 1. TOM TUN (T. Willers) 14-1; 2. CIVmaider 6-1 fay; S. Bilko 14-1, 20 ran. 1, 1½, [Mest J Craze]. Tota: 52000; 5290, 5290, 5240, 6540. DF; 57980. CSF: 69496, The-act 510774

Give An Inch 5-1; 3. Generous Ways 10; 30 fav. 10 ran. 8, sh-hd. (Sir Mark Prescots). Tota: 250; 270; 2150; 2150; 217; 2150; 2250; 217; 2150; 2250; 217; 2150; 217

*THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** DONCASTER | 971 KEMPTON 0891 261 970



Cyclone has the power

BY GREG WOOD

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YOU CAN only feel sorry for John Sanderson, Doncaster's clerk of the course, as he prepares for the opening today of the most important meeting of the year at Town Moor. There are so many things to be proud of at the St Leger meeting, such as the Portland Handicap which is the focus of today's and tomorrow's Doncas-er Cup, which will be Double Trigger's last race in Britain, but all anyone wants to talk about is the relative mediocrity of Saturday's Classic.

Two bookmakers even claimed yesterday that the Irish Champion Stakes at Leopardstown, and not the St Leger at Doncaster, could be the main event of the weekend as far as punters are concerned. The field for the Irish race should certainly be impressive, with Swain, Xaar, One So Wonderful and Shahtoush, Group One winners all, among the expected runners.

"The St Leger hasn't been a great race for a decade and this year's is the worst I can remember," was the opinion of David Hood, William Hill's okesman, and he twisted the knife by adding that "there is not a true Group One horse in the race".

Unfortunately, he is probably right, and the best Sanderson could offer in the Leger's defence was to call it "fascinating and competitive", a description which could apply to any good handicap. But does it really matter? The Yorkshire crowd will still pack out Town Moor on Saturday afternoon, and taken as a whole, the fourday meeting is still one of the balanced mixture of quality

and fierce competition.

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A ASSESTED STUDIES

WEARING OF THE

there is a new contest which in terms of its prize-money is as valuable as most Classics. The St Leger Yearling Stakes is one of those exchisive contests which is open solely to graduates of a particular bloodstock auction, in this case the year-ling sale which takes place across the road from the course when racing stops. The owner of the first horse home will win £178,500, which is a few thousand more than the connections of King Of Kings received when he won the 2,000 Guineas in May It is a fair assumption that few if any of the 22 runners will be having an "easy" to earn a

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Bomb Alaska (Kempton 2.20) NB: Anseliman (Doncaster 2.35)

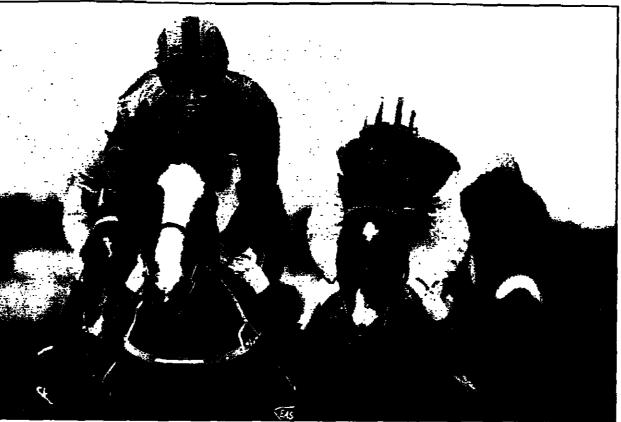
Whether any more than a

handful stand a serious chance

handy mark for nurseries

of winning is another matter. The standard of the field is rather less awesome than the prize-money purse, and Flanders, Tim Easterby's prolific and talented filly, will probably start as the firm favourite. At York last time out, Flanders was third to Bint Allayl in the Lowther Stakes, form which gives her an outstanding chance today, but one slight worry is the amount of racing she has had this season. This will be her sixth start since early May, and her patience may not last forever.

A short price about her is to be avoided - there are traffic problems to consider, too - and a solid alternative is My Petal (3.10): Richard Hannon has a and My Petal seems to have been brought along carefully This year, what is more, with this contest in mind.



Blaze of Glory: Double Trigger runs for the last time in Britain in the Doncaster Cup tomorrow

The Portland Handicap is the race in which almost every punter will feel obliged to have an interest, all the more so since it is the medium of today's

Trifecta, the new Tote bet which is turning the Tricast into a laughing stock. It is, of course, a deeply difficult race to solve, and even the draw is of little assistance, but one runner who could go close at a big price is EPSOM CYCLONE (nap 2.35). Barry Hills's unexposed

three-year-old looked likely to figure in a big handicap when successful at the Lincoln meeting here in March. He has not run for four months, though, after a poor showing at Ling-field in May, but his absence coincided with a bleak time for his trainer. Now that the string is back to form, Epsom Cyclone is overpriced at 20-1.

Desaru (1.30) should win an interesting opener for Jeremy Noseda, although all five runners have a decent chance, while Tuning (3.40), the Ebor winner, is very hard to oppose in the Park Hill Stakes.

IRISH CHAMPION STAKES (Leopardstown, Saturday); Llam Cashman: 5-2 Swatn, 4-1 One 50 Wonderful, Xeas, 8-1 Alboracta, 12-1 Maternam, Shahtoush, 16-1 Male No Mistale, 20-1 Sasuru, 25-1 Tarascon, 33-1 Happy Valentine, 50-1 Risk Material. ST LEGER (Doncester, Saturday): William FIG. 2-1 Necessary 7-2 Ine Stowworm, 5-7 Sadian (from 13-2), 7-1 High And Love (from 6-1), 8-1 Star Begonia (from 13-2), Ta Lim. 9-1 Darrik Moondancer (from 8-1), 9-1 Sam-shine Street, 25-1 Eco Friendly, 150-1

HYPERION'S TV TIPS

DONCASTER

2.05: Still a maiden, but with a solid chance after making the frame in nurseries on her last two outings, PRIDEWAY should go well at decent odds.

2.35: There is plenty of pace on the far side and this should set things up nicely for NIGHT SHOT, who has solid handicap form and is very much on the ungrade. First Maite and Jennelle look best of those drawn high. 3.10: FLANDERS continues

to progress and, having proved her ability to stay 6f in top company at York, she is dif-ficult to oppose. The pace of the race should be among the low numbers, enabling her to keep chief rival My Petal in her sights.

3.40: Success for a Henry Cecil second-string in races of this type is no rarity and prise the Warren Place number one, Tuning. She has had an easier time than her stablemate and looks sure to benefit from this longer trip.

DONCASTER 2.05 92 64 64

وويشن عظا	13-2	61	134		
Dise Melody	7-1	8-1	7		
Lively Jacq	8-1	7-1	3-		
Retaliagor	S-1	9-1	9-1		
Pricionaly	12-1	3-1	10-		
Weblet & Steem	19-1	12-1	9-1		
Drescriety	12-1	14-1	14-		
hor's invalent	14-1	12-1	14:		
Antonia	20-1	16-1	20-1		
Dame Jeth	20-1	15-1	15 -1		
Entropy	20-1	15-1	18-1		
Vistage Pride	33-1	33-1	33-1		
Beveriey Mankey	33-1	33-1	40-1		
Each-way, a quarter are odds, places 1, 2, 3					
H William Hill, L. Lachspies, T Total					

DONCASTER 4.10						
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Tanalagia	41	41	41	41		
Brimming	5-1	H	41	5-1		
Spilat Of Long	6-1	11-2	7-1	6-1		
Sar, Herself	6-1	13-2	81	7-1		
Samolio Bay	8-1	10-1	10-1	9-1		
State Fair	11-1	10-1	11-1	10-1		
Opeque	12-1	10-1	12-1	10-1		
Princess Topas	16-1	18-1	18-1	16-1		
Bedel Gaste	Z -1	25-1	25-1	23-1		
G. Visitary	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1		

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i. Stater	20-1	16-1	20-1	18-1	20-1
Feemer Tree	15-1	20-1	29-1	20-1	18-1

Savill set for last big push

BY RICHARD EDMONDSON

RACING'S CIVIL war is likely to be punctuated by a decisive battle in the next two months.

The conflict between the British Horseracing Board, which is seeking an extra £105m by way of its Financial Plan to improve racing's finances, and the big bookmakers, who are reluctant to step up their contribution, is about to be fought out.

The battleground will be the Levy Board agreement, the mechanism whereby bookmakers return money to the sport. This year's renewal of the egreement is almost certain to end in deadlock. That will mean recourse to the Home Secretary, Jack Straw. Only when he becomes involved will British racing know which turn the turf is taking. Either the status quo will be maintained (the bookies' aim), or Straw will respond to the prolonged entreaties of the BHB and set the way for the Big

Three to pay considerably more for their seat at racing's table. "We are coming to a catalyst. which is the Levy negotiation, possibly followed by Home Secretary determination." Peter Savill, the BHB's Chairman, said yesterday. "That will tell us if the Government agrees with our argument that if we have a monopoly distributor (the bookies] they should pay a fair price for the product.

"If I didn't feel there was a chance of persuading the Government that change should come along I wouldn't be the person sitting here today. I may well fail. We all may well fail. But I believe we have not before marshalled the arguents as thoroughly or had the ame commitment or focus.

"If we are going to receive hat I regard as absolutely iniscule proposals for imrovement in the Levy there is ne view that is not acceptable. *r*e need to see a or quires an additional £80m."

Savill was talking at a press conference replying to a recent bookmaker survey of his Financial Plan. He sees the plan as racing's equivalent in importance of the Dead Sea scrolls. Bookmakers consider it worth rolls of a different nature.

There had been a growing sense of rapprochement between the sides until Savill's election to the BHB chair. Racing's rulers were close to being beaten into submission by bookmaking's intransigience. Savili may not be a typical Yorkshireman, but he does have the grit, and will not lie down until he has appropriated some of the layers' funds.

Since Savill's appointment, relations have been characterised by alternate shooting from the respective trenches.

Following the Financial Plan came a bookmaker salvo when a critique from Coopers & Lybrand said the arguments contained "do not stand close analysis". Savill replied vesterday, in the wake of the sacking of C & L as the BHB's accountants. He said the critique was "weak, unresearched, inaccurate and misrepresentative" The theme seemed to be that he did not think much of it.

"When you get the proper structure in place we will be the happiest of partners with Hills, Ladbrokes and anybody else who bets on horseracing," Savill said. "But as long as racing doesn't have enough employees to look after the horses, the wage structure is wrong and the returns to owners are wrong we will not have a harmonious racing/betting relationship. It's as simple as that."

And so the war continues and, at some point, there will have to be a victim. The worst feeling is that it may be a body on the floor we have seen before. If bookmakers are forced to pay considerably more for o question the BHB will take their involvement they may feel compelled to pass on the cost. The punter, the sandwich put racing in the position it and ice-cream diner may once ight to be. The industry reagain have to pick up the tab for this whole sumptuous feast.

DONCASTER

HYPERION 3.40 Souffle 1.30 Chief Rebei 4.10 Elhavo 2.05 Prideway 2.35 NIGHT SHOT (nap) 4.40 Shaska 3.10 Flanders

GOING: Good to Firm. (Good in places). STALLS: Straight course - stands side; round course - inside, except round 'm - custide. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Being drawn in the centre may be a disadvantage.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Being drawn in the centre may be a disadvantage.

Left-hand, pear-shaped course with 1 mile straight.

Course is E of town off the A638 (M18 Jots 3 & 4), Bus link from Doncaster Central station. ADMISSION: Club 229; Grandstand 213; Farmily Enclosure 25 (under-16s free at enclosures). CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRANNERS: B Hills 35-200 (17.5%), J Gooden 30-141 (21.3%), J Dunlop 34-138 (17.5%), H Cacil 23-94 (24.5%). Mirs J Ramaden 20-209 (9.5%).

ELEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 34-257 (12.7%), K Failon 33-223 (14.9%), M Hills 31-172 (15%), Pat Eddary 21-449 (14.7%), J Fortune 15-180 (10%), R Cochrana 15-196 (11%).

EFAVOURITES: 222-736 (30.3%). LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Pipe Magic (3:0) a have been sent 245 miles. NKCRED FRIST TIME: Vintege Pride (205), its All Relative (2:35), Robber Red (3:0).

1.30 QUEEN'S OWN YORKSHIRE DRAGOONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,250 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value 25,553 11 EJANAASUL (ISA) (73) C) Flamdan Al Maldoum) J Dunlop 9 5...
1 CHEF REBEL (USA) (39) (The Edipse Perhaeship) G Wengt 9 1...
1 WAHOO (23) (O) (K Abculler) J Gooden 9 1...
2 DESARU (USA) (22) (KY Lim) Noseda 8 11...
343 WALLACE (12) (8F) (J A Lezzaro R Harmon 8 11...

-5 declared --5 declared -SGT Repot Rose B 1 M Roberts 7-2 (J Tolsef Robet, 4-1 Wallace, 5-1 Deserts SGT Repot Rose B 1 M Roberts 7-2 (J Tolsef) dresm (S) 6 ran FORM GUIDE

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Simmanut: 222000 son of Nursex. Did not best anything special when scoring at Haydock or when trotting up from Zmie by ½ length over of here but tools especial of better
dock or when trotting up from Zmie by ½ length over of here but tools especial of better
dock or when trotting up from Zmie by ½ length over of here but tools especially floor winner
Vision Cof Night at Newmarket 80, Gerne and scope for Improvement when beating
Welnox Res00000gns Werning cot. Looked capable of great improvement when beating
Adman a sort-head at Newmarket (7), but the form is not looking strong
Adman a sort-head at Newmarket (7), but the form is not looking strong
Cesant: Clocked a useful time when caught on the post by Sossus Visi on its Newmarket (7) debut A son of Criefs Crown with Group entries, he looks sure to go on
Welliams Well clear on his side when 1½ lengths that it is Sossus Visi at Newmarket (7) following fourth to Auction House at York. Held by Wellace on let including experienced youncVECDINGER. VERDICT: The Newmerket form of DESARU, in a field including experienced young-VISITABLE IT The Newmarket form of DESAREU, in a field including experienced young-stern, here a more s __ cock about it then the efforts of his rivets and he appeals as the value but. His big-race emittes suggest he is held in high regard and the mailion at-lowance is an extra plus. He is taken to confirm placings with Wallace, who did not im-prove on York, and may have more to feer from Chief Rabel, whose yard has a good line through Sossus Viel.

2.05 EBF CARRIE RED NURSERY HANDICAP (B) £25,000 2YO fillies of 110yds Pen Value £20,225

		Charles
	MISS UNIVERSE (19) (D) (Mis J M Corbett) B His 97	
1 2313	MISS UNIVERSE (19) (D) (Mis J M COrpor) 6 missel D Loder 9 (BLUE MELDOY (USA) (22) (37) (Shelih Mahammad) D Loder 9 (K Fallon 4 9
2 1022	BUILD MER ODY (USA) (32) (SF) (STEEL MAIL BUILDING)	Pet Eddery 3 10
3 354	CHAZEENUM (13) (Marikasi Alemania and Aleman	T Cuine 12 8
4 50	WARRY EL STAND (ALT) (C S V SINCE LA CLASS DESCRIPTION DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA DEL COLATA DE LA COLATA D	G Duffield 2 17
5 1240	DUEVANIC (52) (D) (TINGA)	R Cochane 9 10
6 6033	ATTRIBUTE TA (USA) (19) (VI SERIA)	K Darley 1 J
7 450494	DAME JUDE (22) (Dr.) (September)	.! Carroll 13 70
23306	CATHEOPY (IS) (IV) (I G PERSON III)	. Dana C'Nail 11 9
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10 0300c	WINE HEE KO F AND IN SHIP THE PARTY OF THE P	A Micholia (5) 7 17
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1 64443	BANGER BROKK I BEEN 1 199 (177) Pro	
W 63315	DETAILATOR ACT ON IP G Ward M Ball 7 10	P Reader (7) 8 B &
5 26600a	RETALIATOR (47) (D) (P G Ward) M Bell 7 10. BEVISH CY MONRICY (14) (D) (Montery Partnership) J Berry 7 10.	

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FOR M GUIDE

Miss Universe: Evens, nack winner of maiden at Windsor (8t good to farm). Third in analish fields for listed race at Newmarket and 17 Solario States at Sendown analish fields for listed race at Newmarket and 17 Solario States at Sendown analish fields for listed race at Newmarket and 17 Solario States at Sendown analish fields for listed race at Newmarket and 17 Solario States at Sendown analish fields for listed race at Newmarket and 17 Solario States at Sendown in the States and Secret, fish in the States and Secret, fishing the secrat Michael Secret, fishing the Secret FORM GUIDE

lvor's investment: Staying-on fourth of 13 in 2f meiden at Windsor. Close third, hanging left, in 8f Epsom nursery on Saturday, Will stay this trip, and has scope to improve Stratiliation: Won 7-runner Leicester nursery (St. good to firm) in July by 7-length, value none. Very close fifth of 7 in slowly-run 77 nursery at Newmarket. One to note leverhey Monkey: Has won three claimers, including at Lingsleid (St. firm) leaset start. Space much stiffer task here from out of the handicap proper.

VERDICT: This appears to be a wide-open nursery, from the Group-race form of Miles. Universe at the top of the handisep to a clutch of interesting horses, including fivor's investment, Priceway and Retallator, near the bottom in between, two that calch the eye are Yabint EI Sham and CAPPELLA. The Richard Hannon-rained Cappelle who just a neck from Ingenious (a winner since) lest time but impressed in the way who did it. Her effectiveness over this trip is a bit of a worry, but she looks a fair bit better than her current mark.

2 2E TOTE THEFECTA PORTLAND HANDICAP (B) 2005
2.35 TOTE TRIFECTA PORTLAND HANDICAP (8) \$30,000 St 140yda Penalty Value \$28,950
1 24004 CATHEDRAL (11) (Kernst Valley Thoroughbrads II) B Meetian 4.9 11
2 0.5240 TO THE ROOF (5) (D) (BP) (Mis P Herris) P Harris 6 9 8
3 30681 NGHT SHOT (21) (1 C Smith) I Baiding 8 9 8
4 008'00 BRANE EDGE (7) (0) (Home Value Partnership) R Harron 794
5 - COMD BLESSINGENDISCULSE (22) (A G Black) M W Essterby 594T Lucre 2 B :
8 00:002 EMERGING MARKET (26) (D) (P Woughton) J Dunico 6 9 0 T Quien 20 1
7 2600 NUCLEAR DEBATE (USA) (25) (D) UR Chester) Mrs. J Remeden 3 8 13 I Forgune 14 1
8 2000 BOLD EFFORT (22) (D) (A.J Richards) K. Cursingham-Brown 8.8 13
9 02400- AZZZI (219) (C Brasher) C Egarton 6 8 13
10 25204 MARTON MOSS (SWE) (18) (D) (T H Bernett) T Easterby 3 8 11
11 TOOO BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY (S) (C) (D) (Mrs J Hurs) D Strew 888_R Wheeton (5) 12 V :
2 81100 CADEAUX CHER (7) (CD) (N N Bourse) B Hills 4 87
13 822020 LAGO DI YARANO [7] (C) [PST Group) R Whiteler 6 8 7
NA SCORED FITS ALL RELATIVE (8) (R Leach J Burry 386 J Carrol 6 B 1
5 12354 FRST MATE (26) (D) (S R Bowing) S R Bowing 5 8 5
16 25403 JERRELLE (7) (bits J.A. Commol), C. Dwyer 4 8 4F Lyach 16 1 17 232022 AMSELLMAN (32) (C) (D) (Ansels of Wations) J. Berry 8 8 4
17 222022 ANSELDIAM (22) (C) (U) (Areas of Mattern) J Berry 8.8 4
B 0-20 EPSON CYCLONE (USA) (123) (CD) (Salam Bel Obaida) B Hills 8 8 4
19 060000 THE PUZZLER (22) (0) (Lady Rahard Walladey) 8 Hith 7 8 8
20 12/25 STORYTELLER (32) (C) (SEF) (Ms KS Post) M Docts 483
21 000000 PUDI'S PET (22) (C) (Jonatan Remaden) Mrs J Remaden 483 Dane O'Nell 18 B 1
22 (1922) DRANKE MISS-P (12) (13) (Alan Sparce Little J Cullings 5 8 3
=22 declared -

BETTING: 8-1 Night Shot, 9-1 Rest Malls, Rud'in Pal, 10-1 Nuclear Debate, 12-1 Bineologisdingsise, Jennade, 14-1 Annadesen, Emerging Market, Lago Di Vasseo, Narton Bicas, 16-1 Brave Edge, 3to rytaliar, 18-7 Cathedral, Epsom Cyclone, 20-7 Catheaux Cher, 10 The Root, 25-1 Bold Ellort, Divine Also-9, 23-1 Brandstates Seady, 33-1 Azizzi, In Al Relative, 1897: Dashing Blue 4 9 12 K Darley 10-1 (§ Bating) drawn (§ 22 ran

837: Destring Blue 4 9 12 K Derby 10-1 (I Babling) drawn [6] 22 ran
FORTM GUIDE
Cathedral: 3 lengths fourth of 19 to Bolahol in Kingle Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot (51, good to soft). Hes had only one previous run beyond 51, but may well stay here for the Rooft Very close fourth of 15 to Belinops Court over 51 at Epacem in Juna. Never able to get a good pitch despite good draw at same course nearly time months later Niight Shock Progressing in escalient style. Won good 51 translations at Ascot and York this summer, and 6th (first home near side) in the Stewards Cup over 6t at Goodwood Brave Edge: Retains nearly all of his ability but is a very infrequent winner. Prevailed in bunched finish at Newbury (31) in July and ran creditably at York lest week Research (31) and the creditably at York lest week in July, Bellow form on firm at York lest time. Stays 6t Mask not be written off Exerging Manicet Back to form when 1%-Region second to Cadeaux Cher in the Great St Willrich at Ripon. Best on sound surface. This trip may well be just too short for him Nuclear Debather: Won Gostorth Park Cup at Newcastle (51, soft in June in good style. Ban creditably (considering draw) in the Stewards' Cup but not in the Great St Willrich Park to the stay in the Stewards' Cup but not in the Great St Willrich Park to seat two starts Sendown this seaton, but never the most relable and poor efforts lest two starts Astazic in fireme over 61 lest season in Group 3 at Leopartiscown and the Ayr Gold Cup. me over til lest sesson in Group 3 at Leoperdatown and the Ayr Gold Cup. Author in frame over of lest session in Group 3 at Leoperdistown and the Ayr Gold Cup. Pan poodly last two etams in 1997 and may need this first run of 1998 : Martion Milese: Progressed will to win at Filpon (St, soit) in June. Performances since suggest he is att one to be interested in, but this trip on fast ground may be too sharp Broadstains Beauty; Mostly runs over 51 (winning three times on fur this season) but also has some good of form, May have needed latest start. Likely pace-setter Cudeleux Chen; Completed quick of hat-frick (on sound surface) in the Great St Wilkid at Filpon, 9th higher hare. Has had excuses lest two starts. Comes from oil pace Largo dil Varanco Won at Filpon (St, soit) in June. Not so reliable but would figure if marting from the control of 23 to 1 hours. Societar at Most Miles it is track. Lago di Varance Won at Ripon (5), soti) in June. Not so reliable but would figure if reproducing form of second of 23 to Liberary Society at York (5), firm) 3 weeks ago its All Reliative: Speedy 51 performer and is also tried in first-time binfaurs. Rether in-and-out form in listed races and handicape this form and has something to prove Flast Malike At the top of his form, fourth to Cadeaux Cher in the Greet St. Wiftigli lest time. Won over 51 at Ripon and 71 at Southwell earlier this season. One to note Jennetic: Won at Redcar (5), soft) in April. Disappointing paraditingle start but better than ever when third of 15 (aut of handicap, 46 lower here) over 61 at 7 fort on lesses. Anselforance Back to form with bold front-running effort to be second of 29 in Stewards Cup at Goodwood (5), good). Ren well again next time and cernot be discounted.

discounted Epsent Cyclone: Won matten have (8t good to soft) in Match and again looked promising when second on soft at Newmerket. Below form on faster ground next sterr (in early May) and has not been seen get since, interesting but sometimp to prove Storytelist: his advancy won five woos this term, all over 6t. Occasional performances over further are not nearly so good, but he is still in good form here last October, This season's form has not indicated that he is about to take advantage. Divine Mass. Pt. Much improved this term, withing tive times. Good placed efforts at at Sendown and Ascot in July before diseppointing on bases start. Best over 57 MEDIDICITY is in term for fast Michal Stot. Who is transaction as a start in term and VERDICT: It is hard to fault Night Shot, who is improving at a rate of knots and deserves to be the morning favourite, but there is plenty of credible opposition. Blessingindiaguise may well resume his progress, Jennetie caught the eye at York last time and Araetinan looks bound to figure promiserably again. The form of the Great St Wiffrid at Ripon looks highly relevent as well. The winner Cadesuc Class, furner-up Emerging Market and fourth FRST MATTE of renew rively and, with the trip against Emerging Market and Cadesuc Cher requiring excuses for his last two starrs, First Matte can reverse placings; he looks sure to put up a bold show.

3.10 200,000 ST LEGER YEARLING STAKES (CLASS B) 1200,000 added 2YO of Penalty Value 1218,864 222/22 BON AMI (15) (3) (KT herry) J Burry B 0. 321 KABO (53) (D) (Ms D M Welfu R Harreon B 0. 149 BOOFARS STREET (15) (D) (Bookins Such Ms J Rumedon B 11

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1	4	2	COHEA ESPLENDIDOS (11) (C G Sentements) H Aliberty & 11	A McGlon
	5	431	DANIELLE'S LAD (12) (Mis B.) Harbirs) & Paling & 11	G Featle
1	6 1	2061		M Tedsbu
	7	11113	FLANDERS (20) (Mrs Jean P Cornew) T Easterby 8 11	
	В .	983	MONKSTON POINT (53) (Demok C Brocardeld) D Arbuttrot & TI	S Whitery
	9	262	PATRICT (SIS) (W Cillions) B Smart B 1:	T Clode
		1005	PIPS MAGIC (12) (D) (BP) (Frank Brady) J Golde 8 11	A Caffe
•	11 6	3882	REDOUBLE (14) (J P Kenny) R Hennon 8 11	K Fel
•	12.0		ROBBER RED (5) (D) (EIP) (David Allen) B Meethan 8 11	J. Wasser
•			SAMMAL (31) (Mrs A M Medicator) J Glover B 11	.l Cam
•	14	20	BOOMERANG BLADE (40) (D) (J W Ford) 8 Smort 8 6	.I Star
		MASS	COMPTON AMBER (30) (E Penser) G A Burler B 6	8 Corbon
	16	222	DANGEROUS DANCER (23) (BF) (5 Crown) B HBs 86	M 14
	7	45	GEFFORME (26) (J & S Kelly) S Dow 86	JEFo
	18 08		KNOCKEMBACK NELLE (14) (Notepoperjob Partnership) D Bauer	+ 46 AD
		240	ICUMAIT DAWN (20) (Greenfelt Stud) K Mehri 86	100
			LITTLE CHAPEL (28) (North Social Racing Club) D Florage Davis 8 8	M Series
-	21	27	MY PETAL (43) (C) (Ms P & Mr P Abort) R Hernon 86	Come City
œ	22 00		PRICE OF PASSION (15) (Noel Cream) D Arbuthret 86	
12	22 00	-	- 22 declared -	POIN

- 22 cocumer -BETTING: 9-4 Famoiers, 5-1 Mondayon Polict, 10-1 Kalbo, 12-1 Bon Ami, Dramatiza, Boo Blade, 14-1 Patriot, Dangerous Dancer, Kursell Dawn, 16-1 others FORM GUIDE Bon Araž: Gerne and consistent with wins at Newcestle and Pipon. Lost no ceste when 2 lengths accord to Hasife at Ponteinot (8) but needs to improve here Kabic: Popressue sort wind followed Brighton was over Deploy Venture with hard-semed neck success from Thrust at Heydock (8) but faces a much stiffer task now Bodfarl Street: Not progressing since Heydock van In July and books up agentst 4 here on. latest 16 lengths 13th of 16, 16 behind Cashilo at Pontetract (6h

Bodfart Street: Not progressing since Heydoot, win in July and bodes up against it have on latest 19 lengths 13th of 18, 191 behind Cashild at Pontetract (5). Collibe Explandition: 20-1 chance when staying-on 14 length excord of 20 to Central Coast in ordinary Notingham 61 mattern on debut. Planty to find in this company Damieline I Lack traproved again when noticen out to beet Survey Sense 1½ lengths at Goodwood (5), but more to do now and possibly beet at the maturum trap Drawnation: Drawnate improvement to beet Linksmap 15 lengths in useful time at Brighton, making at Form working out and possible outsider but making dawn in help Planders; Whittier Castle Stalless and Super Sprint when to be the effort when 2 lengths third to Bright Alley at 10th (8), cashing askle stamins choubs Acts on any going 10th (10th Planders; Whittier Progressing standily and stayed on well from bed draw when 1/4 length that to Planders in Super Sprint (5) at Newbury. Acts on any going but yet to facilis 6? Planders in Planders in Super Sprint (5) at Newbury. Acts on any going but yet to facilis 6? Planders in Planders in Super Sprint but make when 1/4 length that to Planders in Super Sprint but make when 1/4 length that to Planders in Super Sprint but make when 1/4 length that to langthe to find with Monteson Point on that and failed to progress last time Planders in Super Sprint but make where on same terms and did not improve when 3 lengths thirt to Pivertiue in Threat 6? numery Redoubler Locies outsider of stables three candidates on 11/4 lengths second of 10 to Canadian Approval in Lingfled into make an and is leady to find shape trip against him Robber Red Conceding 17to be winter when head second to Manmas F.C in Heydock 6 chainer on Statutey but does not measure up have on that acree-best effort. Seconder Planders third to Em Dust at Licioster (7) and hea scounding to prove Demonerage Blander Easy winner of Folkestone mattern but will need to Improve on 1/4 length second of 13 to Petrovne at Windsor (5) to be in the strake-u

second of '3' to Patronna et Windsor (5)' to be in the shalloup
Gillohas: Hed subsequent winner Jackies Baby behind when breiking the los at Folkstone
(5)' but hybridine exposed when '2' lengths fifth of 7 to Amezing Dreem at Newbury (5)'
Knockemback Neiller Locks well out of her depth on career-behit neck second to Beverley Monkey in Linglield of claimer.

Klamet Demic Outside d'amos on 6' lengths fourth to Kneymeh at Newmedat (7)', Swerved
at start when '2' lengths ninth of to to Bint Alley) at York (8)' lest finte
Little Chapet Has not progressed from debut length second to My Petal at Newbury (5)'
and bolds out of depth on latest '5' lengths eighth of 9' to Lough Swilly at Nottingham (6)'
My Petal: Followed up debut win over Little Chapet at Newbury (5)' with comfortable 1's
length win over Midnight Orchid in Goodwood 6' nursery and is improving test Locks pick
of stables three nursers and could be leading candidate from good draw
Price Of Passion: Stepped up on provious form when second to Deedy Nghishede at
Selectury but limitations exposed when 2's length that to Blevey Step at Linglisht (5)'
VERDICCT: Planders continues in three, despite 8 series of histograps and a granted

VERDICT: Flanders continues to thrive, despite a series of hard races and surprised many by her ability to last 8t at York. She does not have much in hand of Monkston Point on Newbury form but is probably better drawn and should confirm the placings. Better value, though, could be MY PETAL, whose trainer has an impressive record or races of this type. She is in with a fine chance on Goodwood running and has a useful 55 concession from Flanders as well as a good low draw.

3.40 CONSTANT SECURITY PARK HILL STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £35,000 added filles & mares

		1m 6f 132yds Penalty Value £20,700
1	45-62	DELEAH (18) (Hightiere Thoroughbred Recing Ltd) Sr M Stoute 4 9 8
2	-35245	THE FARAWAY TREE (20) (A E Opportnemer) G Wrage 4 9 3
3		BELDARIAN (51) (Gently W Jennings) J Oxod 85Pat Editory 3 B
4	-13211	BRYONY BRIND (31) (44s Decis Hayres) J Panshawa 3 8.5
5	423	KADAKA (20) (BF) (H H Age Khan) 1 Curren 3 85
6	5666	NAPOLEON'S SISTER (11) (Ms. Arne Couplin) D Elsworth 3 85 Dane O'Neill 1
7		ON CALL (17) (Mrs Chrysis Ciffelly) Str M Prescott 3 8 5
8	314	SOUFFLE (20) IN R H Proce Faird Salman) H Cacil 3 8 5 K Declay 7 :
9	-2021	TURENCE (21) (K Abdulle) H Cord 3 8 5
		-9 declared -
81	ETTING;	15-8 Turing, 100-30 Kadaka, 6-1 Southe, 7-1 On Call, 8-1 Dollah, 10-1 Bryony Bri

12-1 Beldarien, 20-1 Nepoleon's Sister, The Paraway Tree 1997: Book At Bedlime 3 B 5 M Roberts 11-1 (C Cyzer) circum (1) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Delibit: Maded who peaked lest form when Princess Royal States, improved again when 3% largiths second to inverment at Chester (in 51) but more to do here. The Ferencey Tree Neck second to Book At Beddine in this last year. Disappointing this term and reads to step up on latest 6 lengths fifth of 8 to Rambling Rose at York (tin 4) Belder land is largiful tith to late sed second to Derby fourth Surphine Street at Leopachatown (tin 4) last time. New to this tip but something to prove Bryony Brinch Improving with every race but telding big step up in class after length win over Centracted in Describe listed contact (tin 40, Could go on agent over langer tip Kadelata. Did not come on as expected when 5% lengths third to Parnibling Rose at York (tin 40 following 1/4 length second to Calchescotchen at Newmenter (tin 40, Closely weighted with Tuning on Newmenter form and some to be in shales up on easier ground.

Napoleon's State: Disappointing since Goodwood win in May, firlehing ten lengths 58th to Shahtoush in the Cales and has 8 lengths to find with Seldsman on Custagh form On Call: Winner seven times in last eight case but carest best effort to bestrop class Ebedylia (gase 28th) 1/ Mangha at Leopardstown (in 61 listed) lest time. Big chance Soutflise Progressive filly Proved better than a handlagger when 4// Arrights fourth to Rembing Rose at York (im 48), staying on after interference Could improve again Tunking; happassive winner of Ebec over this tip, bearing Sheer Dancing 11/2 languist. Closely weighted (but sight edge) with Kadalos on Newmerlest running and looks one to best VERDICT: It could be folly to oppose TUNING, who is admently consistent and found trip no problem when winning the Ebot. Site appears a more reliable type than Kada-who may prove less of a threat than stablemate Soutille, who had no luck at York I looks the sort to progress over the longer trip.

4.10	FARINGDON PLACE MALLARD HANDICAP (25,000 added 1m 6f 132yds Penaity Value S	CLASS B 18,925
1 61614/	BOLD GAIT (J180) (CD) (Mrs i Philips) J Farahana 7 9 13	T Quinn
2 533201	SWEETNESS HERSELF (D) (CD) (Mrs M.J Lavel) M Ryen 5 D 10 (Max) .	K Durley 1
3 440000	SAUSAUTO BAY (21) (CD) (J C Smith) Betting 4 8 8	s Whitecorth 1
	TRAVELMATE (12) (D) (Barbot) Bloodstock 8) J Fanshake 4 9 8	
	STATE FAIR (21) (Ray Richards) 8 HB 4 8 2	
	BRING (41) (K Aboute) H Cac) 38 11	
	OPAQUE (21) (C) (3 J Keery) W Storey 5 8 to	
	ELHAYO (22) (Hemden Al Maktoum) J Dunko 3 8 8	
	GEORGIA VENTURE (21) (Or Frank S 8 Chec) 8 Woods 4 8 7	
U 300/F	SPERIT OF LOVE (USA) (25) (CD) (BF) (A W Robinson) M Johnston 3 8 6.	1 (400)
TI 401600	PRINCESS TORAZ (12) (D) (Stephen Crown) C Cycer 4 6 3	"D Switcher,
	- 11 declared -	

BETTING: 4-1 Shaye, Turvelman, 5-1 Edmining, 6-1 Spirk Di Love, 13-2 Sweatness Hernell, Steesellin Bay, 11-7 Opique, State Fals, 18-1 Princeas Topac, 25-1 Bald Galt, Georgia Ventore 1837 Sausatio Bay 3 8 1 R Cochrane 5-1 Kier (Balding) cleam (1) 17 an FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Bold Gall: Very useful performer three seasons ago, whrong Northumberland Plete. Out of lock over hurdes last season and makes little appeal after lay-off. Superhead Harself. Not the lote of last year (fifth in Park HT Statles) but back dose to her back when basting Noutaria a largth at Haydock (2m) Parallty may prove a stopper Sausallio Bay. Well below term of 1959; when he won this form 3to love. Did not reported to binises tain healy when 28 lengths 5th of 21 to Tuning in the Ebor at York (the 6th Translandate Improved for step up in stip when beating useful Highwayman four langths at Newment (m 7th after lay-off; 12th higher here but looks sure to play by role. Stats Fair: Useful stayer who has lost wrining habit. Got going too late when 8 lengths 10th of 21 in the Ebor bothering promisery Associated and is standard on same mark here. Parallel to the state of the process when beating loading Spirit at Newbury (m 6th in July (ht)) higher here) but faded quickly when last of 9 Ducte Tagger in Goodwood Cup(2m) and is one to have reservations about on that deplay. Opeque: Winner from 11b lower at York in May and 2 lengths fourth in Northumberland Plast from 15 lower. Never a stock in the Ebor but should be tamesbouts here Ethinge; but to full early-season potential but good 5 lengths fourth in Northumberland Plast from 15 lower. Never a stock in the Ebor but should be tamesbouts here Ethinge; but to full early-season potential but good 5 lengths fifth to Eutopment of York (the 6th staying on 25 lower here and create wrinner institution Story at Associ (2m) following lay-off but floyed in 25 lengths 15th of 21 to Tuning at York (m 6th specific Vicinity lay-off but floyed in 25 lengths tourth to be land 15th out of north this season and difficult to fance; on lates 24 lengths 15th of 21 to Tuning at York (m 6th past time and probably needs good test of samms. Held by Tavelness through Highwayman at Sandown (m 6th next and probably needs good test of samms. Held by Tavelness through Highwayman at Sando

VERDICT: The handcapper has been fairly harsh on TRAVELMATE for his New-market win (could have doubled winning distance) but the form has a solid look about it and he is obviously going the right way. Uptilly raced and frasher than many male, he could suprove again said is preferred to the promising Ethayq, who should be sust-ed by the long straight, and Spirit Of Love.8

Ŀ	4.40] SITWELL ARMS AT RENISHAW CLASSIFIED STAKE: (CLASS D) £8,000 added 1m 2f 60yds Penalty Value £4,50
1	655046	PARTY ROMANCE (USA) (18) (D) (Abdulleti A1) 8 Hembury 4 9 8
2	30-004	MAJOR CHANGE (J7) (D) (A P Griffer) Mass G Kelleway 8 D 4
3	2303	SHASKA (52) (D) (Sheith Mohammach J Goadan 4 9 1
4	133400	BENEVERTUS (18) (D) (R N Khan) J Dunlop 3 8 T)
5	6-1053	CLOAK OF DARKNESS (26) (D) (Noterned Schol) R Herron 3 8 13 Dame O'Neill
6	22274	PIPED ABOARD (19) (Als B Jones) M Pipe 8 8 13 J Winney
7	1	RAJANNIA (70) (D) (H H Age Kharr) L Cumani 38 10,
8	0-4012	UP AT THE TOP (19) (Mrs & Roberts) & Hills 3 8 10
9	464	ZELAH (70) (John M. Hawter) 9 Smart 9 8 12
10	220-05	BELLE DE MUST (11) (Richard Withers) B Meeten 3 8 8
π	16-3(2)	CHEM CHEMICY (25) (W.J. Gradley) B.Hills 3.88
		- 15 declared -
В	TTNG:	3-1 Sheeka, 11-2 Ploed Aboard, Reletyma, 5-1 Up At The Tito, Chira Chiralney, 18-1 Part

FORM GUIDE

ty Romance: Won hundcap at Ripon (1992), good to firm) in Way, Has mostly applicated in hundcaps since and does not look one to rely on disspointed in handcaps since and does not look one to rely on Major Changes Well resisted on 1997 form (find) winner on good to firm at Epsom) but below form this term and is proving a more appealing proposition over hundred streets. Disappositing in veluable handcap 2 starts ago but shaped will describe streets of the street and self-has potential. Beneventas: Winn malden at Newcastie (find), good to firm) in May, Has some describ form in frame in handcaps since but has also run two very poor receivant form in frame in handcaps since but has also run two very poor receivant and report of the street of the str in an handcap at Windoor, did not suggest she would be greatly improved by it.
Chisa Chisalesy: A little to find on form, but has solid innot efforts to her name when
placed in limited atakes at Pontefract and handcap at Newbury.

German machine splutters to a halt

Berti Vogts' resignation has left one of the world's football superpowers in crisis. By **Imre Karacs** in Bonn

that a grave natural catastrophe had befallen the country on Monday night. As television stations dumped their peaktime programmes, dark-suited men filled the screens, addressing the nation in sombre tones

The sense of crisis is palpable. After the sudden - if not entirely unexpected - resignation of Berti Vogts, the national football team is rudderless. The first qualifier in the European Championship is only a month away, and the only cardidate available and deemed good enough yesterday turned down the job. The captain, Oliver Bierhoff, is already fretting about "chaos".

His concern, and the anguish of his countrymen, is understandable. Other countries may hire and fire their national team managers on a whim, but Germany prefers stability and continuity. Prostrict "dead man's shoes" principle and the incumbent, as was the case with Vogts, enjoys a "lifetime contract"

Hence, the event Germans are witnessing is rare indeed. There have been fewer German

VISITORS TO Germany might only the sixth since 1923 and have been excused for thinking only the second to fall on his sword. And worst of all: his demise leaves no obvious successor in place.

Vogts' assistant, Rainer Boohof, has had a lower profile than the grass at Borussia Dortmund's pitch. He announced he was applying yesterday, but clearly did not think he was in with much of a chance. "You cannot expect that the tradition, whereby the the assistant on previous occasions became the coach, will be followed," he said.

The youth coaches - the blamed for bringing German football to its current predicament: the Old Boys' team had to represent the country in France because the youngsters were not good enough. Youth trainer Uli Stielike has also conceded that he has not worked for the national outfit long enough to enter the

Other potential bosses were motion here tends to be on the busy yesterday talking themselves out of the job. Franz Beckenbauer, Vogts' predecessor, said he was totally uninterested, and no longer had "the feel for the bench". Ottmar Hitzfeld, Christoph Daum and Otto Rehagel declared themnational coaches this century selves handcuffed to their pre-



Berti Vogts, seen here during his final days as German national coach, resigned on Monday in order to preserve his 'human dignity' AP

Leverkusen and Kaiser- Fussball-Bund (DFB), spent a 1-1 draw - the team is clearly slautern respectively. No other Bundesliga coach is deemed fit

Unfortunately for German football, the one unemployed, world-class coach who might have filled the gap ruled himself out yesterday evening. Jupp Heynckes, sacked by Real Madrid at the end of last season for winning nothing but the Champions' League for the Spanish club, had come highly recommended, but decided to turn down the offer because his wife had just been taken to hospital. "She needs another operation," Heynckes explained, when asked if he was interested in coaching Germany. "I have other concerns at

nervous day on the telephone It would not look good if the five other men on the board deciding the appointment had to give it to the first comer, but that might be the outcome.

The reason nobody is in a hurry to take up Vogts' place on the bench can be found in the parting words of the outgoing coach. He had to leave, Vogts said, in order to preserve his "human dignity". It was a reference to the hounding he had been subjected to by the press, particularly by Bild Zeitung, the

For that and other reasons, the mission ahead seems all but impossible. After last week's performances miserable Egidius Braun, the 73-year- against Malta - a hard-earned The most important priority. old president of the Deutscher 2-1 win - and Romania, a lucky many coaches are saying, is to

heading for disaster on its first competitive outing in Turkey. A coach must be found soon, and so acute is their need that officials have not excluded the possibility of hiring a foreigner. They have promised to make a

decision by the weekend. Whoever is picked, change is in the wind. The DFB's well-oiled machinery has been spluttering. the organisation is in disarray, and the kids are not coming through. By exacting German standards, one trophy in eight years - Euro 96 - the DFB has failed to deliver the goods.

"After Vogts' resignation, the DFB must seize the opportunity and introduce professional structures," urged Willi Lemke, Werder Bremen's manager.

discover the Klinsmanns of tomorrow, if not today. There are some people who

already claim to have found them, in an environment where few have been prepared to look. Germans have been deeply impressed by the spectacle of a motiey collection of Africans, South Americans and Polynesians running amok at the World Cup in the colours of France and the Netherlands. There are more than 7 million non-Germans living in Germany, their children pack the village teams all over the country, and some of them grow up to become valued Bundesli players. Why is it, people ask, that the likes of Bayern's Mehmet Scholl cannot get into the national team? Is there, by

any chance, a racial barrier

To some extent, Berti Vogts has himself given an answer to that sensitive question. His last-throw squad assembled for his farewell friendlies feamans of foreign origin. The most promising of the new-

bahce of Istanbul Dogan is a thoroughly German-style defender, aged 22, who is already hailed as a worthy successor to the great Jurgen Köhler. Why he has never

son of Turkish immigrants, who

is plying his trade with Fener-

been capped is inexplicable. He may now get his chance in that crucial match against the country of his parents on 10 October, a match that is set to herald a new beginning for German football, and not just in

Cooper keeps County in chase

borrowed a few lines from Alex Ferguson's book of kidology as he assessed the chances of his Ross County side causing another League Cup upset over Hearts tonight

However the manager who presides over one of the country's only two 100 per cent records will be hoping for another phone call from his old mentor after the Highland club's visit to Tynecastle.

Ferguson was quick to offer his congratulations to one of his former Aberdeen stalwarts after County's memorable 2-0 victory over Dundee United in the last round of the competition, And now Cooper, a toughtackling midfielder at Pittodrie in the 1980s, is ready to leave his own managerial impression as the Third Division leaders chase an improbable semi-final place.

Tynecastle was a good ground for me when I was a player at Aberdeen and I am looking forward to going there again," he said. "It is a big game for the players and I will tell them to go out and enjoy the occasion. If we win it will be a huge boost to everyone but if we don't we can look back on a great cup run.

"Knowing Jim Jefferies (the Hearts manager), he won't allow his players to take us for done in the competition. comers is Mustafa Dogan, the

"But we are the underdogs again and the pressure is all on. A sire to do well and not let ourselves down.

Cooper will look to the inform striker Derek Adams for further inspiration after his extra-time brace saw off Dundee United at Dingwall in the third round.

However, it may be the last time the former Burnley player turns out for the Highlanders, with a six-figure sum already offered for his services from Morton and several English clubs also keen.

Hearts' Jim Jefferies has been ensuring his Scottish Cup winners do not suffer from similar defections as they aim to sustain another challenge to the Old Firm in the coming

That goal received a major fillip yesterday when the new Scotland cap Neil McCann agreed to a two-year extension on his contract at Tynecastle. which was due to expire at the end of this season.

"One or two others have aiready done the same and it isgreat news for the club, because we want to keen this team together," Jefferies said.

They can only get better and with one or two more additions to the squad there is no reason why they shouldn't do."

Dutchman 'scared' says Beasant Clemente goes

DAVE BEASANT, the Nottingham Forest goalkeeper, has accused the striker Pierre Van Hooijdonk - who left the City Ground before the start of the season claiming the club lacked ambition and would be relegated - of being scared to play in the Premier League.

The Forest No 1 believes the Dutchman is frightened of playing among English football's élite. "It might be one of these things that over the summer he has been to the World Cup and

doubts about his ability to perform in the Premier Division.

"He scored goals in the Premiership in Scotland. He didn't score goals when Forest went down – he played about 13 times and scored one goal. He scored a lot of goals last season and his profile and his earning potential are very high.

"He might have felt he might not score many goals with Forest this season, so his earning potential might go down."

The former Wimbledon and Southampton 'keeper is con-

side in their first season back him." in the Premiership. He believes that Van Hoofjdonk is already regretting his decision to

the moment."

stay away from Nottingham. "I think it has helped us as a team," Beasant said. "Individually there will be some people who might say If he was here, it might have been better'. But on the whole, I think the players have come together and said 'Pierre has decided to take the action, we're not in agreement with it. He thinks he

Nicolas Anelka has apolo-

gised to his Arsenal teammates Marc Overmars and Dennis Bergkamp after being quoted as claiming that Overmars always passed to his Dutch colleague. Yesterday he insisted that the comments were made with his tongue. firmly in cheek.

"I made a joke but it was believe the trouble it caused." the 18-year-old Anelka said. Then I made a joke.

"With a smile I said that when Marc does pass, he passes more to Dennis Bergkamp than me because they are both from Holland. "Honestly, it was a joke. I was

not being serious. There was no intention to upset Marc or Dennis," Anelka said. The Frenchman has vowed

to be wary of any future "jokes" taken out of context, I could not in interviews and said: "The problem was that my answer was taken out of context and

tinued presence as national team coach has become a political football in Spain following a 3-2 defeat to Cyprus in Saturday's European Championship qualifying match.

Clemente maintained his

one from supporters to politi-

cians voiced their opinion on his

The issue of Clemente's con-

future in the game.

Esperanza Aguirre, the minister for education and sports, called for the Spanish football federation to take action in the wake of a defeat she described as "unthinkable".

"I'm convinced that at this

time the whole of the federation are thinking very seriously about the immense disappointment that all tans are suffering and I'm sure the federation will have to take measures," Aguirre said. Clemente responded by telling Aguirre to mind her

"I think there are much more important measures that need to be taken for the good of the country," the coach said. "It seems to me that before you

THE SPANISH coach Javier look at football there are 15 or 20 urgent measures to be

humour yesterday as every-"Worrying about measure number 20 and forgetting the 18 or 19 necessary for the people of our country seems to be a littie exaggerated. "Nevertheless, within a

short time I will tell Minister Aguirre, or the President, what measures they should take for the good of the country.

Press, pundits, politicians and the public have been falling over themselves to give their opinions about the beleaguered national coach, who has been under pressure since Spain's surprise first-round exit in the World Cup.

Clemente has been variously described as "a public enemy", "an embarrassment" and presiding over the worst team in the history of Spanish

football But the Basque coach still has the backing of the Spanish federation and is almost certain to stay on in his job - at least until the friendly international against Russia on 23

TODAY'S NUMBER

5,000

The weight in kilograms of dirty washing the Commonwealth Games laundry section expects to have to deal with every day.

KORTRIJK AND Harelbeke, the Alexandre Khatskevitch, of Ronald Hemming. The Austrian Harelbeke chairman, was quotthe tie 6-0 on aggregate and club were knocked out of the Belgian First Division clubs, ed as saying more time would Dynamo Kiev, was suspended Balint's ban will carry over Uefa Cup and the bans will

and Second Division side Waregem are considering a merger, Kortrijk's chairman said yesterday.

We now have to draw up a protocol saying we're going to merge and give the timing and funding that can be generated." Jacques Laverge, the Kortrijk chairman, told local radio.

He said the newly-formed club could kick off next season although Geert Sustronck, the competitions.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

LESS THAN eight months after

eading the Denver Broncos to

a Super Bowl victory, Terrell

Davis and John Elway were at

t again on Monday night as they helped the defending

hampions to their 11th con-

secutive win over the New Eng-

ewer than he amassed in win-

ing Super Bowl Most Valuable

Mayer in January. But he ran

or two touchdowns, giving him

even in four games against the

Elway, the 38-year-old quar-

erback, began what may be his

inal season with better num-

pers than he posted in his first

Super Bowl triumph. He com-

pleted 22 of 34 passes for 257

Davis rushed for 75 yards, 82

and Patriots, 27-21.

Patriots.

BY MATT GATWARD

be needed. Harelbeke's mayor told the radio station he was opposing a merger deal but added he was not in a position to prevent it. Harelbeke and Kortrijk are currently ranked seventh and 17th respectively in the 18team First Division. Waregem are 15th in the Second.

Two players have been given five-game bans after being sent off in European

123 yards and no touchdowns in

the 31-24 upset of the Green Bay

Packers at San Diego in the

against a conference team that

we might end up seeing again down the road," Elway said.

"We've got to take it one game

at a time, just like last year. We

really don't feel the pressure to

Shanahan, said: "He's pretty

durable. He's proven it year

after year. They did get some

hits on John today. Hopefully,

he's not too sore and he can re-

cover because we're faced with

game for New England, hitting

20 of 32 passes for 289 yards and

Drew Bledsoe had a solid

two touchdowns. "I don't want a penalty or a miscue."

The Broncos coach, Mike

This was a big game

Super Bowl

a short week."

following his red card for butting a Sparta Prague player during the Champions' League qualifying match on 12 August. He will sit out Kiev's first five Champions' League matches.

is better than we are, better

Three Belgian clubs consider merger

Forel Balint, of Romania's Otelui Galati, was given his ban for gesturing at an opponent following his second yellow card in a Uefa Cup qualifying round match against Veile BK of Denmark on 28 August. Vejle won

yards and a score, beating his the Broncos, but I felt we could Curtis Martin, their leading

if we hadn't made all the mis-

takes." Bledsoe said. "I hope we

get a chance to play them again

A one-yard touchdown run

by Davis gave Denver a 27-14

lead with 12 minutes left in the

fourth quarter. Bledsoe replied

with a 10-yard scoring strike to

Vincent Brisby with two min-

utes to play, but the Patriots -

out of timeouts by the middle of

the third quarter - were unable

to recover the onside kick and

football team. We needed to play

a terrific game to win and we

iust didn't do that," Pete Carroll,

the Patriots coach, admitted.

"We made it too difficult on our-

selves at times, whether it was

"Denver are a tremendous

Denver ran out the clock.

at the end of the year"

have made it very interesting rusher over the previous three

until his team next qualifies for European competition.

Five players were given fourmatch bans, although Internazionale of Serie A are appealing against Francesco Colonnese's punishment for "hitting out" in a Champions' League match against Skonto

Riga of Latvia. SV Salzburg had two players banned for four matches -Thomas Winkelhofer and

seasons who signed as a free

agent for the New York Jets.

Their starting rusher, Sedrick

Shaw, managed just 25 yards on seven carries, but the rookie

Robert Edwards rushed 13

times for 50 yards and a score

as New England was slightly

outgained on the ground, 91

better as Adam Vinateri, who

missed a 39-yard field goal,

also had a 37-yard attempt

blocked early in the second

quarter: Troy Brown kept them

in the game, coming off the

bench and catching five passes

for 97 yards and a touchdown

in an effort to ease the absence

of Ben Coates, who had limped

out of the second quarter with

Their kicking fared little

yards to 81.

carry over. The other players given four-match bans were Aarno Turpeinen, of HJK Helsinki, and Samsunspor's Tumer Metin. ■ The Romanian goalkeeper, Valentin Bargan, was transferred

from Recolta Laza to their fourth division rivals, Stemnic Buda, yesterday. The signing-on fee was 11.000 lei (£7.20) – and a truck-load

Durable Elway seals victory | Spain suffers from Tour legacy

THE DRUG scandals that blighted the Tour de France returned to haunt the Tour of Spain yesterday after the publication in the French media of admissions by Festina riders that they had taken banned products.

DRUGS IN SPORT

Festina, who include the reigning world champion, Laurent Brochard, and Richard Virenque, a four-times winner of the Tour de France King of the Mountains title, were thrown out of the Tour de France after their team director admitted to authorising drug taking within the world No

l team. Both the French Cycling Federation (FFC) and the Swiss federation, who have penalty or a miscue."

an injured ankle, but Elway three riders in Festina, are still

The results of the various ing with the Spanish team before investigating the alleged use of tests of blood, hair and urine he switched to Festina.

performance-enhancing drugs by the team, and judicial inquiries are still under way. But the whole affair was blown wide open once again when the French newspaper France-Soir published extracts

of verbal submissions by Festina riders to police in Lyon in July. Lille's first deputy prosecutor, Gerald Vinsonneau, said the extracts were genuine. Seven of the riders interviewed admitted to organised

doping within the team and taking the banned substance EPO. But Virenque and Pascal Herve still deny any doping offences, Vinsonneau stressed. EPO is employed in medicine to treat kidney disease but it can also be used to increase oxygencarrying red blood cell levels, beloing to improve endurance.

samples will not be available until early next month, according to Vinsonneau, who added that the examining magistrate, Partick Keil, might again interview the riders in the weeks ahead.

Vinsonneau said the goal of the inquiry into the affair was to determine the source of the doping products and how they were administered to the riders. The France-Soir article en-

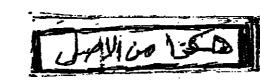
raged the Swiss rider, Alex Zülle, who recently lost a sponsorship deal in the wake of the drugs scandal and diverted attention from the performance of early Tour of Spain race leader Laurent Jalabert of Once. Jalabert and Once were also drawn into the affair by implication when Zulle revealed that EPO was also taken while he was nid-

The French government yesterday created its own team to tackle the problem of drugs in sports.

The working group includes leading figures from sports medicine, law and sociology, including the presidents of the National Commission of the Order of Doctors, the French Society of Sports Doctors and the National Order of Pharmacists

The group is to make a preliminary report in mid-October, one month before the National Assembly's second reading of a new anti-doping law, and present its final recommendations by April 1999, officials said.

The Italian rider Fabrizio Guidi won the 173.5km fourth. stage of the Tour of Spain, from Malaga to Granada, yesterday. Guidi also took over the race



Williams ready to blow hot

BY JOHN ROBERTS at Flushing Meadow

GIVEN THE tornado at the United States Open the other day, it seemed odd that Venus iams should be told that last year she made it to the women's singles final 'in some-thing of a whirlwind".

Having advanced to the quarter-finals after Monday's vioint storm had interrupted her atch against Mary Pierce, the 18-year-old American is next due to play the No 4 seed, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, who eliminated Anna Kournikova, 7-6, 6-3.

It is hard to imagine that four years have flashed by since Williams made her professional debut against Sanchez-Vicario at a tournament in Oakiand, California. More a rumour than a prodigy, having been sheltered from junior competition, Williams amazed the spectators by taking a 6-2, 3-0 lead against the Spaniard, who recovered to win, 2-6, 6-3, 6-0. Sanchez-Vicario also won their two subsequent matches this year, beating Williams at Sydney, 6-1. 6-3, and Rome, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.

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Kournikova, 17, had won her pree previous contests against

Sanchez-Vicario. The Russian who missed Wimbledon after hurting a thumb while defeating Steffi Graf at Eastbourne, is short of her best form.

Sanchez-Vicario, asked if there was a "revenge factor" to her win against one of the younger generation, said: "No, I don't think I have anything to prove. I don't take it as revenge at all. My motivation is the Grand Slams. That's where I'm looking to play well.

The 26-year-old from Barceiona added that she tries to take advantage of being considered an outsider rather than a favourite, in spite of her ranking. There is no pressure on me at all, and I can go and play my tennis," she said, recalling how she had won the title from Steffi Graf in 1994. "I'm probably in the same situation. I was not the favourite to win in '94. I sneak around and do well. Obviously, I won in a very tough match in the final. I think I'm a better player right now than I was in '94. I have much more experience and have improved my game. I'm

happy the way things are going." Kournikova acknowledged that she needs to be sharper if she is to overcome Sanchez-Vicdidn't play the best my of my life,



Venus Williams shows her athleticism as she stretches to play a return on her way past Mary Pierce to reach the quarter-finals of the US Open yesterday

but she didn't make any mis- ario took the decision on the eve hyphen. The latest change has takes," the No 15 said. "Hopefully, I will get good experience from this match, I think I should have attacked more and just played my game."

Always one to dash about, Sanchez-Vicario has inserted a hyphen in her name. The former world No 1 is now legally Sanchez-Vicario, having made the change to protect the rights ario in a major championship. "I of any children she may have.

of the United States Open after a baby born within her family was only allowed to take the name of the father. The hyphen will give any child of Arantxa's the option of adding Sanchez-Vicario after the father's name.

Plain Sanchez before winning her first Grand Slam title at the French Open in 1989, Arantea then decided to add Vicario, her mother's maiden name, The unmarried Sanchez-Vic- emphasising that there was no

been received with mixed reactions. "Oh, God, it's ruined all my books," said the BBC commentator, John Barrett, who edits ITF World of Tennis.

Sanchez-Vicario is to receive Spain's highest award, the "Principe de Asturias", having beaten Michael Jordan by 10 votes in the sports category. She is only the third woman athlete to receive the award. Lindsay Davenport, the No 2 others. Mentally, I am in the best

being among the favourites. "It's not like everyone is writing. 'Lindsay is going to win'," the 22year-old American said as she prepared to meet the South African No 13 seed, Amanda Coetzer, in the quarters-finals. "I don't feel as much pressure here this year as, say, last year

or the year before," she added.

"because people are also

expecting Venus to win, among

seed, is trying to get used to shape I have been coming into a Grand Slam." In 1996, Davenport failed to

live up to expectations at the US Open, having arrived with a a Grand Slam, but I have always gold medal from the Atlanta said if my career was to end I am Olympic Games. "Over the last two years I have learned how to Sweden's Thomas Johanswin on days when you are not son, who reached the fourth playing so well," she said.

"If you wake up in the morning and don't want to play, you are probably going to lose. Essentially it comes down to the the No 11 seed, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 7-6.

player and how badly they want it. If my mom is dying for me to win a Grand Slam, it is not going to help me. I would love to win

round due to Richard Krajicek's retirement, advanced to the quarter-finals, defeating the Russian, Yevgeny Kafelnikov,

McManaman injury worries Liverpool Curbishley on

FOOTBALL

By Paul Walker

THE INJURY that wrecked Steve McManaman's England dreams threatens to derail Liverpool's unbeaten start to the

The Premiership leaders at the club. are waiting to discover if McManaman's Achilles injury ecovers in time for him to Ace Coventry at Antield

McManaman was sent home in his absence. from England's pre-Sweden

training camp for further treatment on the injury that had forced him off near the end of the 4-1 slaughter at Newcastle. If he does not make it, there

could be a change from the new

McManaman has a new, central free role and has been stunning so far this campaign. Liverpool have no-one else who can recreate that flowing style

It is likely Jamie Redknapo

or Patrik Berger would be asked to take up a more attacking role England manager, Glenn Hod- to overplay him and handle "He's building up his games with Jason McAteer returning die, who gave McManaman him carefully over a long seato the midfield. Evans hailed McManaman

as a player who could provide all-out attacking system that England with a lift. "There is naman could fill Paul Gas- feat. Their strength is their team." has been employed since Ger-ard Houllier joined Roy Evans land. I think he's fantastic, he's certainly a great asset from our trio of Liverpool men in the point of view," he said.

"We don't pick the England team but I see him as the perfect linkman in the international team. But that's only our opinion. We believe he is top, top

view at Anfield is that McMa- chiding last season's FA Cup decoigne's former role for team play and spirit, and we England engine room alongside

Redknapp and Paul Ince. As for facing Coventry, Evans said: "He has done some light training, and we will wait a scoring comeback in the re- of Noel Whelan, who is sidelined to see what reaction there has serves at Leicester last week with injuries sustained in an al-

It's a view not held by the a while and we must be sure not to face Coventry. Evans said:

special private practice match debut in the game. today as he continues his re-

covery from knee surgery.

and sharpness, and if he comes challenging for a place in the

Robbie Fowler will play in a recent recruit Paul Hall a full

The £300,000 signing from Portsmouth is set to start his The Liverpool striker made first game for the club in place been It's an injury he's had for but is not in the 18-man squad leged weekend brawl.

The Coventry manager, Gor- ford tonight admitting he fears gradually, like I've done in the bubble finally bursts.

Curbishley's newly-promoted side can do no wrong at present, undefeated in three matches in the Premiership without conceding a single goal. But Curbishley - the Premiership's manager of the month for August - knows that the spectacular run of success must

"Tve been quite lucky - since I took over, I've never had a down side really. I don't know how I'd cope if I was under the pressure some managers get put under" he said

come to an end at some stage.

Rund Gullit picks his first Newcastle team as they travel to Aston Villa, determined to avoid a repeat of the humiliation inflicted on his side by Liverpool 10 days ago. Villa are likely to include their new £6.75m signing, Paul Merson. and Gullit is certain to make changes from the side - picked by the backroom staff - which

upward curve only a short spell as substitute son. Coventry have given us through okay it could be that in in one World Cup squad. The plenty of trouble in the past, inthe next week or so he will start THE CHARLITON Athletic manlost to Liverpool. "I will take it ager. Alan Curbishley, takes one step at a time and try to his unbeaten side to Old Traf- introduce things to the players

> Newcastle have selection problems, with midfielder Dietmar Hamann and defender Steve Howey injured, and doubts over defender Nikos Dabizas and Keith Gillespie. The Leicester City captain.

Steve Walsh, is Martin O'Neill's only injury worry ahead of Middlesbrough's visit to Filbert Street. The defender injured ribs in training and is rated as doubtful, but Muzzy Izzet's knee injury has improved and he is expected to play.

Harry Redknapp, the West Ham United manager, believes his new Chilean defender. Javier Margas, can make up for the loss of the injured Rio Ferdinand. Margas, renowned at France 98 for his bright red bair. makes his home debut against Wimbledon. "It is a blow to lose Rio but Margas is a quality player," Redknapp said. "He has played against teams like Argentina and Brazil regularly."

Hodgson takes a tough line with Sherwood

By Alan Nixon

THE BLACKBURN ROVERS manager, Roy Hodgson, cracked down on captain Tim Sherwood yesterday by dropping him – and telling him he will not get a pay rise.

Hodgson took the bold step of leaving out Sherwood from tonight's clash with Spurs, the club who have twice tried to buy him in the last week. Sherwood is replaced by Billy "Because of Tottenham's un-

take him out of the team," Hodg-son said. "Spurs have been told just seven months ago." twice, both verbally and in writing that the player is not for sale. The player's agent continues to make noises and unsettle him, so much so that I have to leave him out. Tim is not in the right frame supposed offer from Tottenham

"Tottenham's interest in him wanted interest I have had to has destabilised our club. Tim signed a new four-year contract

Hodgson revealed that Sherwood had asked Blackburn for not believe that is the case and a new deal - on the same money that Tottenham are ready to pay to him - but that the suggestion had been of mind he is very tempted by the thrown out by Blackburn's owner, Jack Walker.

Sherwood as being a definite negative. We've told him in no uncertain terms that he's not for sale but it has not resolved the situation. He obviously does that his contract should be im-

proved." However, Hodgson is also prepared to sell Sherwood if the problem carries on as he feels an unhappy player would dis-

SPORTING DIGEST

McKinlay, with Chris Sutton and by the possibility of returntaking the captain's arm-band. ing to his native north London. and I see a defection from Tim club where several big names have left over the last year. He is putting team spirit

first and said: "I don't want to leave myself open to any charges that a player is playing whose heart and head is elsewhere. The only way I can justify leaving a McKinlay or Flitcroft out of the team is when I know that the 11 who are playing are blue and white

will be resolved, even by Saturday, as I look forward to working with Tim. I respect and admire him," he said. "We will need definitely him if we are going to do well in

Hodgson has shown in the

past that he will part with un-

happy men - although in Sher-

wood's case he is willing to let

him stay if he forgets about

Spurs. "Hopefully this situation

through and through." Europe."

both the Championship and in

Higs's over-45 doubles; Vallous Group: I Newcombe and T Roche (Aus) bt R Emer-son (Aus) and T Gorman (US) 6-3 6-3. Women's Musters Doubles: Blue Group: G Fernandez (US) and B Stove (Neth) bt M. Daniels and P Teeguarden (US) 7-6 6-3.

Jordan's driver delay

MOTOR RACING

BY DEREK ALLSOP

JORDAN'S PLAN to announce their driver line-up for next season at this weekend's Italian Grand Prix have been put back a fortnight because of the team's continuing contractual pute over the services of Ralf Schumacher

Damon Hill is due to be confirmed for another year but Jordan want to name both their drivers at one presentation and they may have to find a replacement for Schumacher, who is intent on joining Williams. The contract case is scheduled to be heard in the High Court today.

Schumacher, ordered not to challenge Hill for the lead at the Belgian Grand Prix 10 days ago, insisted after the race he was determined to move on. Jordan, thought to be paying

Hill around £3.5m a year, say

they cannot afford another hefty salary and could turn to a liver who brings in money. Hill's former team-mate at Arrows, the Brazilian Pedro Diniz, has the backing of his father's supermarket millions, While Tyrrell's Japanese, Tora-Dosuke Takagi, generates a substantial sponsorship package. AMERICAN FOOTBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto 15 Cleve-land 1: Texas 6 Minnesota 0: Boston 4 New York Yankees 3: Chicago White Sox 7 De-troit 5: Seattle 11 Baltimore 1. croit 3: Seattle 11 Baltimore 1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Minimulice 6 Pittsburgh 3: New York Mets 8 Adanta 7: St
Louis 3 Chicago Cuits 2: Colorado 15 Florida 10: Houston 1 Christmad 0; Artzona 4
Los Angeles 2: San Francisco 5 San Diego
4.

TOUR OF SPAIN Fourth stage (108 miles, Malaga to Garanada); 1 F Guidi (It) Polit 4fr 27min 22sec; 2 G Lombardi (It) Feldi 4fr 27min 22sec; 2 G Lombardi (It) Reisson; 3 J Billewers (Neth) TWA M Wast, (Ger) Festha; 5 A Berofini (It) Coffdis 7 C Moveri (It) Breschalar-Liquiga; 8 S Smetarinte (Rus) Vitaliclo Seguros; 9 L Jalabert (Fr) ONCE-Deutsche Bank; 10 P Gaurnonk (Fr) Coffdis same time. Oweralt standings: 1 Guidi 19hr 24min 57sec; 2 Jabbert + 2sec; 3 M 2ers (Savit) Post Swifss +5: 4 Gaurnonk +12: 5 G Figueras (It) Mape +13: 6 M Mauri (Sp) ONCE-Deutsche Bank +18: 7 U Exebarca (Mer) Buskard-Euskadi 8V Garda Acosta (Sp) Banesto both s/t 9 L Dertkeens (Bel) Lotto-Mobister +19: 10 D Exebarria (Sp) ONCE-Deutsche Bank s/t. CYCLING

FOOTBALL Tommy Powell, the former Derby winger whose career spanned three decades, has died at the age of 73.

Christy O'Connor Inr has withdrawn from this week's British Masters at the Forest of Arden following the death of his son, Darren, in a care the following the control of the son that the son the following the control of the son that the son the son the son that the son that the son that the son that the crash in Kilcolgan, near Galway, late

on wonday.

Next year's European Grand Prix at Slaley Hall, Northumberland, will have a new date to ensure it does not clash with the US Open as in recent seasons. The 1999 tournament will run from 24 to 27 June.

ROWING ROWING

WORLD CHAMPIONESHPS (Cologne, ger) Leading results from replicings results from replicings results from replicings results from replicings (first base to seem-disale): Heart 1: 6 Costing SA) 7min 36, 12sec; 2 C Davidson (Can) 7:38,96. Heat 2: 1 Y Polymeros (Gr) 7:39,48; 2 T Schmidt (Ger) 7:43,39. Heat 2: 1 F Duffour (F) 7:34,75; 2 R Lutosish (Est) 7:44,27. Heat 4: 1 L Podsupiu (Soviet) 7:40,59; 2 I Godoy (Chie) 7:42,07.

Heat: S: 1 S Lynch (Iri) 7:38.51: 2 T Kubo (Japan) 7:52.43. Heat: 6: 1 P Holning (GB) 7:36.76; 2 R Rechauses (Lim) 7:40.39. Single sculls (first two to seed-finals): Heat: 1: 1 J Koven (US) 7:18.50; 2 A Reinholds (Lat) 7:21.09. Heat: 2: 1 G Searle (GB) 7:26.43; 2 Ch Yulun (Ch) 7:31.89. Heat: 3: 1 F Bekken (Nor) 7:16.72; 2 A Willins (Ger) 7:17.80. Heat: 6: 1 A Ibrahim Ali (Eg) 7:23.71; 2 G Calabrese (Ir) 7:26.42. Castess pairs (first two to secret-finals): Heat: 1: 1 France (L Begilh) A Beghin) 6:59.93; 2 Hungary (A Csordas, R Bartal) 7:02.93. Heat: 2: 1 Limbania (E Pedius, J Begdonas) 6:52.34; 2 Croatia (O Martinos, N Sarago) 6:57.01, Heat: 2: 1 Canada (I Wetzel, M Crooks) 6:53.36; 2 South Africa (R D-

Heat 2: 1 Lithiania (E PEDUS), I Bagtomis)
6:52,34; 2 Croabia (D Martinou, N Saraga)
6:57,01, Heat 3: 1 Canada (J Weizel, M Crooks) 6:56:36; 2 South Africa (R Di-demente, D Cechi) 7:03.22. Heat 4: 1 Britain (S Williams, F Scarlex) 6:44.79; 2 Australia (M McKay, D Gimi) 6:48.50. Deethle statilis (first two to semi-finalis): Heat 1: 1 Italy (L Vascorto, N Sartori) 6:31.02; 2 Belgium (B Hendriclo, T Sympens) 6:33.87. Heat 2: 1 Norway (K Undset, S Storseth) 6:31.49; 2 Hungary (A Hallet, L Szoeg) 6:33.82. Heat 8: 1 L5 (McGowan, D Proz) 6:35.01; 2 Czech Republic (T Karas, M Cger) 6:35.69; Heat 4: 1 Britain 5 Goodbrand, C Greenway) 6:38.32; 2 Australia (M Free, D Free) 6:43.75. Lightmedght eights (first four to final): 1 Britain 6:02.55; 2 Laly 6:03.34; 3 Spain 6:05.70; 4 Switzerland 6:08.55. Codess fours (first three to semi-finalis): Heat 1: 1 Poland (P Jarosinsk), A Soblowick, P Basta, P Boch-Jarosinski, A Sobkowiak, P Basta, P Boch-eneily 6:14-12; 3 Lis Ji Piving, S Bea, E Ayer, M Callahan) 6:15.17; 3 Crostia (D Bako, M Rusex, A Buca, B Vujevic) 6:17.18. Heat 2: 1 Romania (F Corbean, C Memico, C Pavel Mutescu, V Mastacan) 6:09.87; 2 Norway (H Lande, K Stongevilli, O Tulne, 5 Bjoervig) 6:10,87; 3 Befarus (D Mironchyk, A Taracchuk, A Samakhuwaku, D Pilachyssik) 6:11,97; Heat 2:14 Parene (D Eurytes, 6) Tazachuk, A Samalduneku, D Plachyscik, 6:16.85. Heat 3: 1 France (D Fauches, G Bosquer, A Perrot, F Mearition) 6:09-57: 2 Germany (M Wies: U Wiefers, P Stuer, M Ashol); 6:11.37: 3 Likhauaha (T Triffausiasa, M Krederis, M Lileika, T Valcluless) 6:13.53. Coured pubril (first to Manal); Hanat 1: 1 Germany (S Ueck, M Kleinschmidt, F Erdmann) 72:69-12. US (K Bortherding, P Henry N Anderson) 7:29.13. Hanat 2: 1 Greece (G Fottu, K Karlotts, L Rizos) 7:23.63; 2 Argentina (W Balunek, D Ordas, P Nagy) 7:24.97.

724.97.
Witoman: Lightweight single scalls (first two to sami-finals): Hast 1; 1 M Remsel (Nan) 8:31.32.2 P Kitenova (Cz Rep) 8:32.47. Ment 2: 1 M Leisted Busk (Den) 8:32.47. Ment 2: 1 M Leisted Busk (Den) 8:32.25.2 Heat 3: 1 S Kitas (US) 8:39.10.2 R Doyle (N1) 8:44.50. Heat 4: 1 B Luzuy (Fr) 9:37.77: 2 F Ng (N1) 8:45.04. Single scalls (first three to semi-finals): Heat 1: 1 R Nebous (Bul) 8:17.00.2 S Soom (N2) 8:20.35; 3 C Orsmond (SA) 8:25.54. Heat 2: 1 H Baradin (Sae) 8:08.15; 2 G Douglas (Aus) 8:12.66; 3 A Tomczak (Pol) 8:16.42, Heat 3: 1 G Batten (GB) 7:58.45; 2 E Spinelo (N) 8:09.97; 3 C Carto (Fr) 8:06.75. Condens pales (Rest two to 8-mail: Heat 1: 1 - Russia (A Ligartheu, V Potchitaeuo) 7:33.06; 2 Britain (D Black-ie, C Bishop) 7:34.64, Heat 2: 1 Romania n: Lightweight single scalls (first semi-inals): Heat 1; 1 M Rem

(G Damian, V Cochein) 7:36.20; 2 Dermark (C Rindom, M Viral) 7:38.23. Double scalls (first three to sepol-dinals); 1 Lithuanie (K Roplatosla)s, B SalkChiene) 7:17.00; 2 Hungary (K Ruditol, V Szeleky) 7:19.09; 3 Belanus (I Zaicharesskays, V Berazriosa) 7:20.78. Cantless Fours (first Fourto final); 1 Belanus (V Batscustays, T Doy-dzenta, N Usalina, M Znek) 7:02.19; 2 Romania (M Dumitrache, V Susanu, L (19) 09: 3 Bearus (Camaressons, Ver-ramina): 720.78. Condess fours (fight four-to final): 1 Belanus (V Batseuslaya, T Dwy-denka, N Lislina, M. Zhak). 702.19: 2 Romania (M. Dumitrache, V. Susanu, I. Gafencu, A Cazac). 7:04.42: 3 Romania (Y. Andryejesa, N Proscura, T Sauchenko, T Fe-senko). 7:06.59: 4 Germany (M. Scholz, A. Weller, S. Goldbach, K. Henker). 7:07.60.

SPEEDWAY ELITE LEAGUE: Wolverhampton 42 Swindon 48.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Newcastle 45
Newport 45: Reading 49 Penerborough 41. TENNIS

US OPEN (Flushing Meadous, New York) Mear's stagles, chird rosset: C MOYA (Sp) br 1 Sambili (US) 6-2 3-6 3-6 6-3 7-6: O Gross (Ser) br 6 Grant (US) 7-5 6-7 6-3 7-5: A CORRETIA (Sp) br 8 Black (Zim) 6-3 4-6 6-2 7-6; M Larsson (Swe) bt M RIOS (Onlie) 6-1 6-7 2-6 6-3 6-2: M Philippoussis (Aus) br.1, Arnold (Ara) 7-6 6-3 6-3. Fourth rosset: P SAMPRAS (US) bt M Safin (Rus) 6-4 6-3 6-2.

Men's doubles, third rouse's 5 TOLLE (Aus) and C SUK (Cr. Rep) br. T WOOD-RRIGGE AND M WOOD-FORDE (Aus) 3-6 6-3 7-5; M DAMM (Cr. Rep) and J GRABB (US) bt. Jensen and M Jensen (US) 6-4 4-6 6-2.

(US) 6: L Jensen and M Jensen (US) 6-4
4-6 6-2.

Wiomen's doubles, third rounds M
HINGS (Swid) and J NOVOTNA (Cz Rep)
by J HALARO-DECUGIS (Fr) and R McOUNLAN (Aus) 6-1 6-0; M Saeld and Y
Yoshida (Sp) by R Dragomir (Rom) and J
Majoli (Croa) 7-6 3-6 7-6: B SCHETT (Aus)
and P SCHNYDER (Swid) by C Rubin (US)
and I Spirlea (Rom) 7-6 7-6.

Without doubles, quarter-fluxists: L RAYMOND and P GALBRATH (US) by P TARABINI (Arg) and D Johnson (US) 6-3 6-2:
D Graham (US) and S Scolle (Aus) 7-5 7-5.

Men's Over-35 doubles: Blass Groups
J Kriek (US) and J Lloyd (GB) by M
Bahrami (Iran) and L Shirias (US) 6-4 5-7
7-6; S Davis and D Pare (US) by P Dupre
and H Pister (US) 6-1 6-1. Red Groups
J Fittgerald (Aus) and D Vesser (SA) by T
Mayotte (US) and T Smid (Cx Rep) 6-3
6-2.

(US) 7-6 6-3.

Microti Doseblee Masstere: First revents: M Jassovec (Yug) and M Orantes (Sp) bt J Durle (SB) and C Posarell (US) 7-6 0-2: W Turnbul (Aus) and J Fillot (Chile) bt V Wade (SB) and M Ressen (US) 6-4 6-2: T Older (Neth) and S Collins (US) bt P leeguarden and 5 Smith (US) 7-6 6-3: G Fernandez and T Gorman (US) bt R Casals (US) and P Dent (Aus) 7-5 6-4.

(US) and P Dent (Aus) 7-5 6-A.

Bogs' singles, first round: Oreng WeiJen (Daw) 0: 5 Dictson (GB) 3-6 6-4 6-2;
R Steekley (Can) bt L Magdinces (Maced)
3-6 6-2 6-3: C Strata (Ger), bt L Joseph
(US) 6-3 7-3; B Borelia (Den) bt A Vinciquerra (Save) 7-6 6-4; P (Ving (US) bt L
Griffith-Ming (US) 6-1 6-0; K J Happensteel
(US) bt G Corla (Arg) 6-4 7-6; L Parquitov
(Aut) bt 1-7 Rojer (Meth Antilles) 2-6 7-6
6-3; L Ubel (Ger) bt A Hartman (Swe)
6-0 6-4; D Nathandian (Arg) bt B Veress
(Hum) 6-0 6-2; J Niemines (Fin) bt M Mahadesin (Ind) 5-4 6-4; F Gonzaler (Crific)
bt A Roddick (US) 3-6 6-4 6-2; O Roctus
(Bel) bt J Adaktusson (Swe) 3-6 6-2 6-3.

Doubles, first round; M Koyacs (Aus)

SCOTTISH PREMIER

LEAGUE

40 Aberdeen v Motherwell.

41 Celtic v Kilmarnock 42 Dundee Utd v Rangers .

48 Hearts v Dundec.

6-2 3-6 6-3: A Kracman (Sloven) and Alsam Ul-Hag Querreshi (Paki b M Boeker and A Bogomolov (US) 6-2 6-1: D Martin and K. J. Hippensseel (US) b R Kowalczyk and S Lipsky (US) 6-1 7-6: J Hasek (Cz Rep) and L Pampulov (Aut) br L Magdincev (Maced) and C Martin (Fr) 7-5 6-4. L Chromosta and J Vrbka (Cz Rep) bt S Alckele and B Bachert (Ger) 6-1 6-2: L Harper-Griffith and J Whrzman (US) bt S Dickson and M Hilton (GB) w/o. Globel Cherles, Flore membri & Smoth. bt 5 Dickson and M Hilton (GB) w/o.
Girls' singles, first rounds K Srebotnik (Sloven) bt K Kristnamurthy (Can) 6-2
6-0; I Tulyaganova (Uzbek) bt 3 Lehnhoff
(US) 6-4 2-6 6-4; G Welelova (Slovak) bt
M Middleton (US) 7-6 6-2; A Wely (Fr)
bt Z Kucova (Slovak) 4-6 6-4 7-5; L Krasnoroutskaya (Rus) bt E Krauth (Arg) 6-3
6-2; C Charbonnaer (Swit) bt M Emilia
Salemi (Arg) 6-3 6-2; M Irvin Santa (US)
bt W Savondari (Ind) 6-1 6-2; Z Gubarsi (Hun) bt L Bao (Swit) 7-6 6-1; A Cargili
(US) bt U Khan (Ind) 6-0 7-5; C Nives
(Sloven) bt M Sequerra (Ven) 6-2 7-6; N
Petrova (Rus) bt J Scaringe (US) 6-3 4-6
6-1; B Braverman (US) bt D Krstulovic

(Croa) bt Z Fleishman and P King (US) 6-2 3-6 6-3; A Kracman (Sloven) and

(Croa) 6-2 6-3: E Dominikow: (Aus) ba K Berecz-Szatmari (Hun) 7-6 6-4; J Do-cic (Aus) br O Reynolds (Men) 6-2 6-0; T Pisula (Sloven) bt O Berdanova (Cz Rep) 6-4 6-4; M Gerards (Neth) br R Hudson (KZ) 6-2 7-5. Second roward: K Cheva-iler (Fr) bt G Sziros (Hun) 6-0 6-1.

SCOTTISH CHARPIONSHIPS (Belinburgh) Mean's singles, first round: K Flygt (Swe) bt I. Milligan (Middleses) 6-3 6-2; C. Auffrey [Fr] bt A Parmar (Herts) 6-1 6-1; G. Doyle (Aus) bt E Ran (Br) 5-2 6-2. Women's singles, first round: A Pirsu (Rom) bt N Payne (North of Scot land) 7-6-6-1: D chaldova (Cr Rep) bt A Hopmans (Neth) 6-3 6-4. E Curutch-et (Fr) bt L Woodroffe (Surrey) 6-1 6-3; 6-3 5-3 1-6 6-3.

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP Aston Villa v Wimbledon . Everton v Leeds . Leicester v Arsenal .

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION O Bolton v Birmingham . I Bradford v Sheff Utd .

12 "Postponed: Bristol C v W Brom 13 Crystal Palace v Port Vale us Grimsby v Bandely
15 Caford Utd v Ipswich .
16 Portsmouth v Swindon
17 Stockport v Cresse
18 Westord v CPR
19 Wolverhammer

SECOND DIVISION 20 Bournemouth v Wigan 21 Burnley v Wyco 23 Colchester v Gillingham 24 Lincoln City v Slackpool 25 Luton v Bristol Ro 26 Macclesfield v Man City 27 Northampton v Oldham 28 Notes County v Fulhern . 29 Preston v Reading

THIRD DIVISION 32 Barnet v Hull 34 Brighton v Southend...

Playing Priday: Halifax v Cardiff.

30 Stoke v Millwall .

SCOTTISH LEAGUE i Airdrie v Greenock Morton ... 46 Clydebank v Ayr ., 47 Raith v Felkirk

49 Stranger v Hamilton TEM HOMES: Crystal Palace v Port Velo ester v Gillingham, Stoke v Milhwall. Chester v Torquasy, Hartlepool v Ex-terAirdire v Greenock morton, Clydebank PTVE AMAYS: Macdesfield v Man City. Raith v Falkirk, Sc Mirren v Hibernian, Stran-

FOUR PRIMIS: Charlton v Derby, Chelsea

7.30 inless stated PA CARLING PREMERSHIP Iston Villa v Newcasile (7.45)...... Deby v Sheffleid Wed (7.45).....

FOOTBALL

outenham v Biackbern (7,45) Vest Ham v Wimbledon (7,45) STOR POOTBALL LEAGUE windon v Oxford Littl (7.45) ..

SECOND DIVISION

v Guiscley. DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Dhiston: V Athersone (7.45). Midland om normatienes LEAGUR Francier Dhissions Salishory v Arherstone (7.45). Mildiand Dhysiolos: Witchest v VS Rugby. RYMAN LEAGUR Isthoniana League Cop profitedharry resent Croydon v Basingstoke. Molecy v Bishop's Stortford.

UNISONO LEAGUE CUP First round; Bradford PA Whitely Bay, Congleton v Belper SCHEWIFDX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Directon v Backwell. DAMINICE INFECTION V SACRAMENT.

LEAGUE OF MALES; Carmarthen Town v
Aberysbydt, Rowader Town v Riverfordness;
TNS Librasinterfact v Caersons.

JEWISON WIRSEEK LIAGUE FIRST Displaces;

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

Chester-le-Street: Shitton v Companie PONTINS: LEAGUE Prantier Divisions: Leeds v Stoke (2 0), Second Divisions: Vork v Bradford (7.0). Third Division: Chester v Wagan (2.0); Helitax v Scanstorpe (2.0); Wal-sal's Chesterfield (2 0). League Gup Group Ome: Middlesbrough v Darlington (7.0). AVON RESURBANCE COMBINATION PARK

RUGBY UNION

mit.SH NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Di-distage Bridgend v Pontypridd (7.15); Llancti Neuth (7 0); Newport v Czerphilly (7.0).



SP()RT



GERMANY'S VOGTS OF NO-CONFIDENCE P24 • DICKIE'S LAST WALK TO THE PAVILION P20

Merson move angers Robson

By NICK HARRIS

PAUL MERSON yesterday completed his £8.75m move from Middlesbrough to Aston Villa and provoked an angry reaction from Bryan Robson, the Boro manager, over the reasons he cited for leaving the

Merson said he left Teesside partially because he wanted to escape an environment where he may be tempted to return to gambling and drinking. "I don't go around preaching to people to stop drinking and stop gambling, that's going to hap-pen everywhere," he said. "[The Middlesbrough players) are not gambling £10,000 or £20,000 but some of them like a bet and I can't just go into the dressing-room and tell them to stop."

The 30-year-old England midfielder, a recovering alcoholic who also has a history of gambling and drugs problems, added: "It goes much deeper than that, and I just had to get out of that environment.

"But I am not jumping off, anyone who says that is out of order. My conscience is clear. I went down from Arsenal to get them out of that division."

Robson was furious at Merson's move. "This club has bent over backwards to help Paul Merson whenever attitude and feel let down. I've been at clubs which have been running card schools on the way to the game, but we don't even do that here. To say his fellow professionals drink and gamble is total nonsense.'

Merson moved to Middlesbrough in July last year for £4.5m after 13 years at Arsenal. Having made a recovery after years of personal problems, he earned an international recall, helped Boro win promotion to

the Premier League and took part in the World Cup. He was first re-ported to be considering leaving the North-east last week, as his rela-tionship with Paul Gascoigne, a fel-low England player with a history of personal problems, reportedly deteriorated. It has also been confirmed, however, that the Villa manager, John Gregory, had been approached by Merson's agent about his availability before the player made his potential health concerns public.

As Merson prepares to start a new chapter in his career - he was not signed in time to make his debut against Newcastle United tonight there seem to be more questions has chosen now to move.

"There is a lot going on behind the scenes, things which I don't want to go into," he said. "I hope the fans don't get the hump because if they believe what they read then they will think that I walked out." He is adamant that there was no

possibility of him moving to Tottenham. "I didn't ask to leave Middlesbrough. They let me go," Merson said. "They tried to sell me to Tottenham, probably because there was the chance of a player swap. But I didn't want to go to Tottenham. If he needed it. I am disappointed by his Aston Villa hadn't have come in for me I would have stayed."

Merson becomes Villa's second most expensive player after £7m dropped a hint that Collymore's days may be numbered when he said: "I think our striker Julian Joachim needs someone of the experience of Paul Merson alongside him."

More football, pages 24 and 25



than answers over precisely why he Paul Merson, flanked by the Aston Villa manager John Gregory (left) and director Mark Ansell, completes his £6.75m transfer from Middlesbrough yesterday PA

United face supporters' wrath

BY GUY HODGSON

MANCHESTER UNITED are bracing themselves for an outpouring of frustration tonight by supporters opposed to BSkyB's proposed £575m takeover of the club. They meet Charlton Athletic at Old Trafford amid growing local antipathy toward the deal.

A small demonstration took place signing Stan Collymore and now on Monday evening but tonight will there are doubts over whether he be the first time that United fans lic in 1991. The price has been paid has a future at Villa Park. Gregory meet en masse. There will be more than 55,000 at Old Trafford and the vast majority are against the deal. The targets will be the club's chief executive, Martin Edwards, and Rupert Murdoch, the major shareholder in BSyB.

"I haven't met anyone who supports what's going on," Lee Hodgkiss, secretary of the Independent Manchester United Supporters Association (IMUSA), said. "I've heard a few fans on the radio saying that we can buy Ronaldo and do all sort of wonderful things, but I think they're taking a short-term

There will be a cost, just as there has been since the club went pubby younger local fans who have found access to Old Trafford has been put out of reach."

IMUSA, who will distribute thousands of leaflets this evening, met last night to formalise how to express their opposition but already there have been calls from other fans to preparing to meet Charlton, the boycott Murdoch's newspapers and to return subscriptions for his satellite television broadcasts. "I'll not take up my season ticket next year if he takes over," one supporter outside Old Trafford said yesterday. Edwards and Maurice Watkins, a

director and a solicitor, had a meet-Pic board will convene some time today. There are reports, however, that Edwards has already accepted share.

Meanwhile the manager, Alex Ferguson, who knew nothing about the takeover until Sunday, has been

surprise Premiership leaders, with the attention of the football world centering off the field rather than on it. Yesterday he insisted that no matter how vehement the demonstration is before the kick-off, supporters will refocus once the whistle goes.

"I don't think the fans will take it ing with the club's financial advisers out on the team," he said. "They in London until the early hours of recognise it's nothing to do with the they'll be watching and that's the important thing.

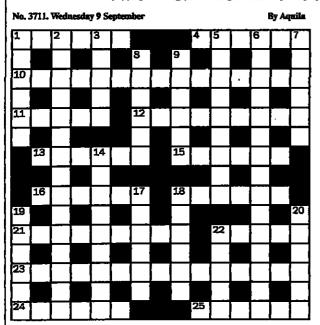
There has been great loyalty and that has been shown by the fact they've signed long contracts. They think the supporters recognise that."

Ferguson agreed the atmosphere had changed this week but that it had not affected his staff. "It's a a Pic thing and we're cut off from all that," he said. "The players have got on with training and I've got a million things to do during the day It's!" been business as usual

"You read about it in the paper and obviously you hope that mything that happens is good for the club and

United's Nicky Butt will miss tonight's match against Chapton as shown by the players over the years he recovers from dental surgery. Jesper Blomovist, the £4.5m signing from Parma during the summer, is love the club, as I do myself, and I fit again and will be on the substitutes' bench.

THE WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS 1 The Circle Line

- scheme (6)
- dress up (6)

 10 New style of farmhand in Welsh air (4, 2, 2, 7)
- 11 Breaking nose, as-sailant ends attack (5)
- 12 Goes away and tidies
- up room (6, 3) 13 Great landlords have Ibsen's spirits (6)
- 15 Dialogue that is in early film (6)
- 16 Illicit affairs of prophet going round ancient city (6)
- 18 Passage has Goya composition in view,
- oddly (6) 21 Pressure unstable in
- cartons (9) 22 Peter out, clothed in gold, for so long (5) Reluctant, in church, to 23 Reliable sort forget Northwest trip? (5, 2, 8)
 - Joint capital of one in Hardy novel (6) 25 One gapes as celebrity goes before the queen

DOWN Everyone in tug is fat

- Answering me, they adapted US novelist (6, Marsupial on street
- needs a place to settle 22 Ward off, say, on time Eleventh-hour revival

of the side (9)

- 6 Omar Khayyam's pa-thetic index? (3, 6, 6) 7 False tears, perhaps, at
 - zoo's opening (6) Shifts what is counterfeit on board (6) Fruit produce? (6) Boarded up, say, in out-
 - building (9) 17 County employees (6) 18 Affected ways of Virginia, with tiny changes
 - 19 Sea-duck spotted in Tabasco territory (6) 20 Peter's first doorkeeper, an aggressive sort?

Pleat in pursuit of new happiness

DAVID PLEAT has promised to can be done if there is sense on put the smile back into the Total sides. When Lawrie McMentenham dressing-mom while he is in charge of team affairs. The club's director of football has assumed the role of firstteam coach until a successor is half-time and have two minutes found to Christian Gross, who was sacked on Saturday.

Pleat hinted that Spurs would be a better place of work for the players under his rule than it was under that of his Swiss predecessor, who some feel may have had a communication problem with his players.

"I might have to say one or two things to the players in an English they understand," Pleat said. "They can relate to me - I am not into poetry or Shakespeare or Churchill's war cold water buckets over them or whatever you have to do to

get them going. "There is a banter within role in the hot seat. that dressing-room that has to be understood. There are innuendoes and all sorts of the spirit and confidence; win things. Footballers are a one or two games and keep strange breed and are of a certain culture."

Pleat also admitted there were times when he wanted to interfere in the way Gross ran the team but was unable to. which suggested he and Gross did not have a particularly good working relationship.

He said: There was one particular occasion when I was sitting in the stand and I wanted to go and give some advice to Christian, and it was very frustrating. There was one particular game when I felt sure I could have helped.

"This director of football job

emy was at Southampton he used to watch the games, because I do believe you need an overview. He would go down at with Alan Ball in the boot room before he went in and spoke to

"You can concur at half-time very quickly and give the manager one thing he needs to do, such as saying: Keep Ginola on the touchline. I don't see it as an awkward position if you can relate to people. It is only if you get jealous of people and want to take their job, and that is not what I came here for"

Pleat, who was one of Tottenham's more successful memoirs, and I don't throw managers during his spell in charge at White Hart Lane towards the end of the Eighties, is relishing his temporary new

> "I see my job description as having to maintain and revive steady; don't shout too much, don't cry too much; just get on with the business and give the club a chance to find a realistic successor who genuinely can take the club forward," he said. "I shall try and enjoy it, although it is difficult when the pressure is on. If you feel you are capable, you shouldn't deny yourself the opportunity to do the job when

you are asked to do it. "Sometimes, what around comes around and I am pleased to be here. I have come to terms with lots of things and as long as I am calm and sensible about this, we will be okay.

"They have given some re-sponsibility to me and I am going to do my very best to help Tottenham. I shall be very proud if we can move forward. I have got something to offer and I want to help out. I am a democratic manager and I like to invite the views of the players - that is the

way I have done things." Tottenham's England duo, Sol Campbell and Darren Anderton, are both ruled out of Pleat's first game in charge, at home to Blackburn tonight, but there is some good news as Anderton's knee injury is not as bad as was first feared.

"Darren will not need to have an operation, and we hope to have him back as quickly as possible," Pleat said. "Sol had a dead leg but he is a very solid man and suggested he could be back for Sunday." Espen Baardsen will con-

tinue in goal, and Pleat gave a vote of confidence to Ramon Vega, who was booed by Spurs fans on his last home appearance. "I give credit to Vega because he has had to put up with a lot here. Gerry Francis signed him, but I think there was an association that because he was Swiss you get at one man through another He had a hard time in the last home game but he pulled himself around and did admirably at Everton in a backs-to-the-wall job, so he may be involved tomorrow.

"I don't think I need to change too much. The team had a resilient display at Everton and if there is a solidarity and determination amongst the group then they have the ability



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VEDNESDAY REVIE

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The junkie will see you now

study in The Lancet tells us that 60 per cent of doctors drink too much. My reaction was to wait for the punch line, but that was apparently it. Still reeling from that revelation, we were told that 10 per cent of junior doc-tors use other substances like Ecstasy or amphetamines, which led to a lot of tut-tut-ting on GMTV that morning. Certainly it is nice to hope that the doctor treating you is not completely off their head, but if anyone close to me was in a casualty department with an acute "recreational" drug reaction, it would also be nice if the doctor treating them had some personal experience of the issues involved. More worrying than the small Loncet survey is the British Medical Association's estimate of 9,000 doctors at any one time needing help for addictions of one kind or another. I was one of those 9,000, although someone else, at least for now, has taken my place.

THE INDIPINDENT

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> The trouble with addiction is that it's just such a logical thing to do. You discover something that makes you feel good - you want to do it again, if you've any sense. If you happen to be addicted to parascending or rock-climbing, it looks good on your CV. If you happen to be addicted to controlled pharmaceuticals, it can lead to all sorts of problems. Being a logical person, when I discovered that a few mils of fentanyl (a synthetic morphine-like drug) taken in a glass of orange juice would make a night on call as a junior anaesthetist a complete doddle, I started to do it on a regular basis. I was never "stoned", at least to start with. It would just ease that ache across the shoulders, and would make the pager bleeping at 4am a little more bearable. Then things drifted a little. I started taking stuff home in the evenings to help me relax. And then at weekends. And then because I was studying like crazy for the most arduous set of exams I had ever sat (all of which I passed). And then I started taking fentanyl for any excuse whatsoever. Most of the time I just took it to feel roughly normal, but since I was using in one shot (intra-nasally by now) more than the average patient would get through in a two-hour general anaesthetic, "normal" is one thing I definitely wasn't.

Then, inevitably, I was caught. At a strange hospital where I was doing a week's locum (for the drugs, you understand, not the money), someone saw me pocket a syringe and the police were called fiventually, it was decided no charge would be made against me and I was only cautioned. But it was also the end of my career in anaesthetics, and the beginning of the worst three years of my life. I was suspended from work, naturally, and also referred by the police to the General Medical Council.

The GMC has a very polite way of doing things, and I was sent a letter inviting me to refrain from medical practice, and placing me under the supervision of a consultant psychiatrist. During the entire time I was under GMC supervision, when the most intimate details of my personal background were discussed between them and my supervising psychiatrist, I never once received letRecent revelations about the startling number of doctors addicted to drugs came as no surprise to

Dr Martin Hatcher. As a junior anaesthetist, he couldn't get through the day without them

ters from anyone other than a member of the administrative staff there. The letters only referred to "The Screener", an Orwellian an ordinary hoseoige might melt or samething it's strange how. term for the GMC's screener for health, who always remains anonymous. I have since been told that this is to protect "Screeners from attack by mad, drunken, disgruntled doctors whom they refuse to allow to practice. (I now treat mad, drunken, disgruntled patients every day, but like all other doctors in the real world, I don't have the privilege of anonymity.) At the end of 1997, the GMC had 181 doctors under supervision which, according to the BMA figures, leaves a lot unaccounted for

The psychiatrist whose supervision I was under was very straightforward. Common sort of thing, anaesthetists hooked on opiates. Quick course of methadone, Bob's your uncle. Maybe a bit of counselling. Then keep your nose clean for a while and find a new career path. I almost started to look forward to it. Unfortunately my "counsellor" had never dealt with an addicted doctor before, and seemed to regard me as some sort of minor celebrity. So I was advised not to take part in any of the group sessions. Then the methadone stopped. Then my "new career" was suggested as psychiatry itself, mainly it seemed because none of the

drugs on offer are the type people take through choice.

The next couple of years are still, thankfully, a bit of a blur I sumbled through a few crappy jobs with little or no help. Doctors with drug problems don't get plum jobs - the crappy ones are the only ones left. I bought a lot of codeine cough linctus, fiddled a lot of prescriptions, and taked a lot of urine tests. One of the patients I saw for a while was a former consultant psychiatrist still fighting an obviously lost battle with drink. He, too, was under GMC supervision. His supervising consultant was the one I was working for at the time, but the two hardly ever met. Instead, this by then pathetic figure was palmed off on to me. We exchanged platitudes once a fortnight for a short time, and then

he died. Such is the care lavished on the profession by their own.

The low point must have been that morning my long range pager. went off because I was late for my psychiatry out-patient clinic. I knew there were 10 depressed patients waiting to see me. The reason I was late was because I was wandering around B&Q looking for a suitable piece of piping to fit in the car exhaust. One that an ordinary hosepipe might melt or something. It's strange how

the mind works at such times.

But, as you'll have guessed by now, the car exhaust plan was never followed through. Instead, with the help of people around me I realised I wasn't getting the treatment that was right for me. So I requested and, unusually, got a change of supervisor. I also got to see another counsellor, who was less susceptible to bullshit than the previous one. (Being impervious to the complete load of toss that addicts use as excuses for their behaviour is a prerequisite to being a good drugs counsellor.) My life is not perfect. I do not, however, need to resort to controlled drugs any more. I hold down a responsible and stressful job in acute medicine, and the people I work with know about my past.

The authors of the Lancet paper question whether it is time to do what they do in the US, and start random testing of doctors for drugs. But such tests do not appear to have had much impact on the use of prohibited substances within sport, and if anyone knows how to falsify a urine test, it's a doctor. My own opinion is the only thing that will help doctors who abuse substances is a change in the culture. A change which recognises that this problem has always existed, and allows the topic to be discussed in something other than shocked whispers. A change that would mean coming forward for help did not mean an automatic letter from the GMC. Their new motto ("Protecting Patients, Guiding Doctors") is I suppose the right way round, and requires them to be able to instil fear into miscreants. But I cannot see how the sword of Damocles will encourage doctors to seek help. The protection of patients is simply mutually exclusive with the effective, early treatment of sick doctors.

We need an independent body that doctors know they can approach in confidence, and through which they will receive firstclass advice and treatment. Better treatment than anyone, in fact, because we know every trick in the book. The BMA has a 24-hour counselling service, and there is also the National Counselling Service for Sick Doctors, both of which represent a start, How effective either is I cannot at the moment say. If I ever need to

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Vivisection views

Sir: It is a relief that someone as eminent as Professor Stephen Hawking has defended the current need for vivisection ("Hawking defends tests on animals", 7 September). It is extremely unfortunate that no real alternative exists.

I once asked a vegan friend whether he used medicines (because inevitably they had been tested on animals). He told me that he didn't if they were recent additions to the market. When I asked what he would do if his young son had a disease that was fatal unless a new drug under trial was given, he admitted that he would want his son to live.

The problem of vivisection will not go away overnight but violence against scientists who are devoting their life to the advancement of medicine will not solve anything. SARAH HUNTER Diggle, Greater Manchester

Sir: Not so long ago, it was a "scientific fact" that newborn babies could not feel pain. Today, it is a "scientific fact" that the use of morphine for pain relief can lead to addiction. Both these "facts" have and continue to cause a great deal of human pain and suffering.

Your recent reporting on the protests at the Hill Grove cat breeding factory (Weekend Review, 5 September) and Stephen Hawking's beliefs on the value of vivisection make much of facts vs feelings - that protesters are sentimental fools and vivisectionists and their supporters are led by logic. In which case, one wonders why they don't use prisoners, the mentally ill, pensioners, the long-term unemployed and others whose burden on the state outweighs their monetary value. Being human, their response to environment, drugs, surgery and other treatments would result in far more accurate results and speedier trials, costing less, not least to the tax payer.

The value we each put on life and suffering will always be subjective and this is partly due to the way society views that which is considered to be alive and capable of suffering, which is in itself subjective. Australian aborigines, American Indians, the poor and the Irish have all been considered sub-human, incapable of finer feelings, animals. Today, we view such opinion with disbelief, just as society views vivisection with revulsion. That the law condones vivisection does not mean that it is defensible. What changes such laws is, basically, compassion."

Compassion may be far too "sentimental", not nearly logical enough, but I know which society I'd prefer to live in. CLARE PROUT London W10

Sir: I am very interested in what Stephen Hawking has to say about physics but why I should be remotely interested in what a physicist has to say about ethics I don't know. JOHN HINDLEY London N1

Sir: Animals to be eaten are killed instantly at an abattoir. Animals to be used for medical experiments may suffer for hours, days, weeks.

If research and experiments are necessary, let them use people. VINCENT VERE London TW9

Man not United?

Sir: Martin Edwards and cohorts have contrived to tear the heart out of Manchester United Football Club.We have rarely played exciting football since the decline of Eric Cantona. The salary requirements of world class strikers are derided. Merchandising is prioritised over fan loyalty. For heaven's sake, a disc jockey is employed on match days

who plays Oasis! The club coins in twice that of its nearest rival, four times the premier league average, twice the revenue of Juventus and AC Milan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Continuing our series on the Portuguese fishery, two young sailors sleep on deck as their boat returns to port at the end of a day's fishing

combined (who, curiously, can afford world-class salaries), and anticipates financial bonanzas from its own Pay TV station and

from putative European leagues. Must it now further humiliate its fans and sacrifice its soul at the alter of corporate power games? A change in the hierarchy and management style is welcome, but one that restores the vitality and culture of a once-wonderful football club. PETER DAWSON Ilkley, West Yorkshire

Sir: Any headline which includes the phrase "Blair must stop Murdoch..." (leading article, 7 September) is an exercise in futility of which Sisyphus would be You could more profital publish an editorial advocating the abolition of bad weather. JOHN HALL Dawley, Telford, Shropshire

Is it possible that the extent of Rupert Murdoch's influence over our lives is overstated? Reading the Sun, watching satellite television and supporting Manchester United, although unsavoury, are non-compulsory. MARK TAYLOR Grantham, Lincolnshire

Elected monarchy

Sir: Quite apart from the literally nonsensical suggestion that a 'monarchy" could ever be elective or anything other than strictly hereditary, the unthinkable thinkers of Demos have come up with a real peach with their idea that we must "break down the barriers" between royalty and the people so that they can not only symbolise the country but actually become part of British life rather than just... observers" (The Independent on Sunday, 6

This is ahistorical unconstitutional tosh because the only thing symbolised by the British Crown is the

Establishment and all those who gladly accept their own undemocratic subservience to it. So what Demos has omitted completely from its proposal is any sense that this monarchy survives as the apex of an entrenched British class system.

The monarch reigns over us; we cannot pick and choose about this or who that monarch should be. There are no half-measures, least of all the moronic system proposed by Demos, which requires us to go on voting until we can find a royal that most of us are happy with. On the contrary, we retain the institution until we are ready to drop it lock, stock and double-

The burning question is: why money to do anything? They couldn't think themselves out of a paper bag.
TONY WALTON Hove East Sussex

Sir: Feeding the hungry with

unnatural plants whose ability

to sustain health has not been

mankind ("Crop engineering

September). If even a fraction

of the money that is currently

being poured into the search

for chemicals and genes which

sustainable agriculture based

on local crops in all countries.

we would no longer have ills to

Of course, there is no profit

Chairman, Scottish Consumer

Association for Natural Food,

cyclists to use bells in central

London (letter, 8 September).

Unfortunately the feeble tinkle

Sir:John Burchell wants

proven is a crime against

'failing' the hungry", 4

will "cure" all ills were

GEORGE STIDOLPH

in health.

Glasgow

diverted into establishing

Sir: I believe that the Belgian people rejected Leopold as their king in the 1930s, on moral grounds, following the death of his wife, the beautiful Queen Astrid, in a car accident - he driving.

They demanded that the throne be taken by his elder son, who reigned for many years, being much loved and respected.

Is this true? IRENE BIRCH Kirkby, Merseyside

Christmas jeer

Sir: I would like to claim the first sighting of Christmas decorations for sale this season (John Lewis, Brent Cross, London, 10 am Monday 7 September).

This gives me a prin months, two weeks and four days to decide between red and silver baubles and to plan the positioning of my manger scene, while also encouraging me to bypass autumn and assume stress levels more

IN BRIEF

of a cycle bell would be all but

In any case, if there is time

When a pedestrian steps out

in front of you without looking,

need both hands on the brakes.

Shouting a warning is all that's

background roar of London

to ring a bell there is time to

as frequently happens, you

left if an accident is to be

ANTHONY CAMPBELL

Sir: I should like to point out

not "walk", as was claimed in

record holder" (31 August).

KETTH CAMERON

that I was sacked by XFM. I did

Steven Jelbert's article "World

avoided.

London N14

London W1

inaudible against the

take avoiding action.

commensurate with the so-called festive season.

Surely it is time for the consumer to take a stand against such hydicrous manipulation of our natural life patterns and explain to whoever makes these decisions that at this beautiful comparatively peaceful and contemplative time of year their offensive display only makes us want to insert several Wise Men where the Christmas star don't shine. CAROLYN BADHAM London NW4

The Boer camps

Sir: John Stawson's comments (letter, 4 September) on John Pollock's Boer War article ring less than true. My wife's Boer grandmother often stated, of the Standerton concentration camp, in which she spent part of the war, that the epidemic did indeed have a cause in the lack of knowledge of hygiene of Boer women.

Sir: I was at the AGM of the electronics giant GEC recently, and wasn't really surprised when the chair said that its exports of military equipment had not been affected by Labour's ethical foreign policy.

I wonder how Labour peer and GEC board member Lord Simpson of Dunkeld feels about his government's ethical foreign policy - is he pleased or disappointed that it has had no effect whatever? BEN NIBLETT

Sir: When firemen are paid by the fires they extinguish, they become arsonists. Now that scientists bave to bid for money to support their research, we suffer a new health scare every month. PETER SAUNDBY Llangynidr, Powys

The Afrikaners have for decades spread the tale that "the British invented the concentration camp in the Boer War". It was in fact invented just before that war

by the Spanish in Cuba. The camps had little in common with the Nazi version, and were genuinely intended only to concentrate civilians away from the fighting, and prevent them supporting their guerrillas with food and shelter. LEN CLARKE Uxbridge, Middlesex

Tough on timber

Sir. PG Harris of the Timber Trade Federation (TTF) protests (letter, 7 September) about the lack of dit given to the UK timber industry for improving forest management, and points to its environmental timber purchasing policy as "a practical way of making progress with timber producers". Unfortunately this policy is deeply flawed.

Signatories to the TTF purchasing policy are required to seek documentary evidence of legal and well-managed forest sources. The problem is that this "evidence" usually amounts simply to claims from the logging companies themselves - some of whom have been convicted of illegally felling timber - that they are not involved in illegal or

unsustainable logging. Because of misleading green claims on timber products, Friends of the Earth is encouraging people to buy only timber with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) logo. This is the only effective independent certification scheme.

The UK Timber Trade could have an important role in helping to protect the world's forests, but its flawed purchasing policy is not the answer. SARAH TYACK Forest Campaigner Friends of The Earth

Killing shellfish

Sir: There are various recommended ways of killing shellfish: by inunersion in a salt water/ice slurry; by putting them into boiling water, by putting them in cold water and slowly bringing it to the boil; and with the larger animals, by piercing them at certain ganglia (nerve) centres.

There has been much discussion as to how long the animals should be kept in the ice siurry before boiling or cutting up and whether the formation of ice crystals can cause pain. An opinion among scientists is that the smaller shellfish will die in a matter of seconds when dropped into boiling water. It is questionable whether a few seconds of possibly extreme pain is acceptable, and piercing the animals needs considerable skill.

Some work has been done by the late zoologist Dr John Baker into passing an electric current through a water tank, so stunning the animals, but this has only been researched on lobster and crab.

What is certain is that most invertebrates have sensory receptors. They respond to noxious stimulation such as pinching. squeezing or cutting of the body wall, and research has shown that there is a strong possibility they are susceptible to pain and stress. Lobsters dropped into boiling water have been known to show powerful struggling movements for up to two minutes, and Dr Baker concluded that these were indications of pain.

Very little is understood about invertebrates. What is certain. however, is that there will never be a truly humane method of killing these essentially healthy animals, and the advice of Shellfish Network is to leave them in peace. JULIE ROXBURĞH Leatherhead, Surrey

Sir: I was interested to read about Mr Stookers Housefly, Parasitic and Biting Insect Support Group (letter, 7 September) but surely Hilaire Belloc said the last word on this many decades ago:
"He prayeth best who loveth best All creatures great and small. The streptococcus is the test. I love him best of all." PETER CROFT Cambridge

Dogma and truth

Sir: Ronald Pearce detter, 4 September) asks when hishops and other church leaders will share their knowledge of the biblical and theological scholarship of the last 150 years.

The persecution of David Jenkins, the former Bikhop of Durham, must deter anyone who tries to question the accepted dogma of the creed. Evangelicals and traditionalists scream against "liberals" because they "undermine simple faith". The old imagery permeates the services in prayer, hymns, preaching and in much religious writing. The language and music are so beautiful that they resist change.

There are attempts to educate the laity, but parochially theology is usually for the clergy. Many of those who undertake training for ministry find biblical criticism enlightening. but others close their minds to it. They have a need for certainty, not questioning. A pilgrimage of faith which takes account of modern cosmology and symbolism leads an increasing number towards Christian Humanism. MOLLY ROSENTHAL Denbigh, Clwyd

Sir: Ronald Pearse apparently believes that the gospels are not historical accounts of the life of Jesus, but creative writing. I suggest that the inevitable result of such a belief is the reduction in church congregations which Mr Pearse goes on to note.

On the other hand, those churches which teach that the Rible is the true and inerrant word of God." find their congregations grow. People search for truth, and when they find it are unlikely to let it go. **DUNCAN REEVE** High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire

A midsummer day's ring interrupts the idyll of the king

from that fabulous lost Shakespeare play The History of King Tony, or New Love's Labour Lost, detailing the bumpy rise and rise of King Tony of Britain, and I am often asked if there is more where that came from. There certainly is, as follows...

The scene is somewhere in Tuscany. Enter King Tony, wearing a broad smile and broad pair of shorts, together with his Queen and men-ai-arms. Tony: Come Queen, and find your ease upon this

This is a lovely stretch of sward, where we May stretch our tired limbs and take our rest. A busy life it is upon the throne, But now and then a king must be alone. Cherie: Alone? Call this alone? Then who are these Five silent men accompanying us, Built like gorillas from the Afric jungle? T: They are my bodyguards, as well you know. C: To guard your body from what pressing danger? What enemy creeps upon us through the grass? Are you afraid of rivals here in Italy?

Thinkst thou Duke Gordon-Brown will find you here And strike you down, or that Lord Prescott might Initiate some plot to have you slain And mount the throne he dearly wished was his? T: No, no, my love, I fear them not at all! C: Then tell your hulking men to keep away. Let us have at least one private day! T: It is not my own wish, dear heart, that we Should have this level of security. From earliest times it has been the thing To be close guarded, when one is a king, By men with walkie-talkies, ID passes, Badly hidden guns and dark, dark glasses. A ringing noise is heard. Several of the men-atarms leap to their feet, whip out guns and shoot wildly. King Tony produces a mobile phone. T: Nay, stay, sweet gentles, do not be alarmed! It is my mobile phone! We are not harmed! C: Out, out, damned telephone! For it has ways To drag us early from our holidays! King Tony listens intently to the phone, then rises. T: Alas, my Queen, the sun that bids us laze, The red, red wine that warms our English blood,



MILES KINGTON

'Yea, even the cunning pasta in its myriad shapes Cannot suffice to fight against my duty'

Yea, even the cunning pasta in its myriad shapes, Cannot suffice to fight against my duty.

To go straight back to England,

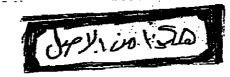
Where Fenian rebeis have caused unearthly

Upon the streets of Omagh, up in Ulster. At least, I think it's Omagh. The line was bad. C: But will it help? How can you be of aid Merely by striding through the Irish crowd And shaking hands with everyone you meet? I have seen you seen smile, and nod, and ween. Until the cameramen did have their fill Of swooning shots of you, in grief, full face: And very well you do it too, right BAFTA-style, Yet must I ask again, how can it help? Stay here, my lord, in Tuscany, right here! And bring your family, not the Irish, cheer! T: I wish I could, sweet one, I wish I could. But I am told by Alastair on the line That Bill, the King of the Americas, Is winging his royal way even now To Ireland, to appear a man of peace And steal my thunder while I sunbathe here. I hate him!

Hate King Bill, your older brother? Hate the man whom you do oft embrace?

T: I am a friend to him as the sun to the moon. I hardly know him. Oh, yes, side by side, We often stand for portrait opportunities And smile and wink and nod. But after that He forgets my face, my name, my everything. I love him not. I hate him very much. And now he flies to Belfast in my absence To reap the praise that should be mine by right. C: For this you'd sacrifice a fortnight in the sun? T: To be the Irish man of peace? I would! I'd give the earth to be called King Tony the Good. They exernt slowly, on their way back to England. From behind a tree, whence he has been watching them, comes the Duke of Livingstone. Ken: When I am voted Mayor of London Town, I'll bring this puffed up fellow crashing down! But no one must know that I was ever here! A bodyguard returns to retrieve a walkie talkie and sees the Duke of Livingstone. Bodyguard: Fancy seeing you, red Ken! What cheer! Execut severally.

More of this cultural milestone soon.



WIND BUILD

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The Bank must cut interest rates, and quickly

MOST ECONOMISTS seem to expect the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee to leave interest rates at their present level after its two-day deliberations, which begin today. There are various reasons for this. There is still a general feeling that the Bank has to prove its "toughness", establishing its anti-inflation credentials in the markets. The Bank is naturally cautious about making a rapid U-turn on rates, especially at a time of such financial instability.

More specifically, earnings growth in Britain is still higher than the Bank would like, anxious about the implications of that for its ability to meet the Government's inflation target. Some on the committee fear a repeat of mistakes made in the wake of "Black Monday" in 1987, when rates were cut too soon and too deeply, allowing inflation to get out of hand.

These fears should no longer dominate policy. For one thing, the situation now is not like that of 1987. Global financial turbulence is an established deflationary force, with evidence emerging all over the world that recession, not inflation, is the foremost danger to prosperity.

With South-East Asia's economies still contracting, a wave of cheap imports and cheaper labour will break over the Western economies in the next year Even more important, export markets will shrink, and world trade will become further depressed. Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve, is no dove on inflation; but even he has begun to hint that interest rates' next move will be down.

Similarly, on the domestic front no one has to look far to find signs of a slowdown. Up to a few weeks ago it was possible for the Bank to point to a vigorous service sector to justify higher rates, to restrain the boom in those services; now the sector seems about to follow manufacturing into stagnation. Earnings growth is slowing: high-street sales are flat; house prices are falling. In fact, as both trade unions and business leaders have argued in talks with the Government, British economic growth will slow over the next two years to almost nothing.

As Keynes once said, the prevailing view among economists is often dominated by the ghosts of the previous generation. In this case, central bankers are haunted by memories of the Seventies, when inflation roared out of control. But the situation is very different now. Labour market reforms, free investment flows and technological advance all make inflationary spirals less likely. Real interest rates are historically high; we are



entitled to ask whether this can be justified, if everything central banks have told us about the advantages of liberal capital markets is true.

The economy is slowing so quickly that a decisive cut in interest rates, of half a percentage point, should be on the agenda. This would prevent more money flowing into sterling, aiding its fall on the foreign exchanges and bringing relief to exporters. It would mean our economy moving marginally more into line with those in the euro bloc, aiding our ability to join them, should we wish. A rate cut would also stabilise the jittery stock market. There is an international aspect to the decision, too.

Capital flight is forcing interest rates up around the

world, as governments compete to attract money into their currencies. Lower interest rates in Europe and the US are vital to restore confidence and reverse this process. The Prime Minister has called for a meeting of the G7 nations to discuss the world's unstable financial system; Britain could now give a signal of determined Western economic expansion, just when the developing markets of Russia, Latin America and Asia are crying out for it.

In fact, it is difficult to make any case for interest rates being maintained at their present level: the time is right to loosen monetary policy. The Monetary Policy Committee should cut interest rates, and quickly.

Democracy is the pill for Russia's ills

BORIS YELTSIN has twice put his candidate for prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, before the Duma and twice been rebuffed. As prices rocket and emergency supplies of oil, rice and flour disappear from shops, Yeltsin appears still to misunderstand fundamentally the purpose of Russia's so-called democracy: to create stability for its people and its economy. His stubbornness is having the opposite effect.

Chaos reigns. Three weeks without an effective government have brought the country to its knees financially. And its people, whose average life expectancy has fallen 10 years since 1989, are being put through the mill once again; the oldest and weakest, unable to travel and barter, suffer the most.

But two things are clear. In the short term, the obvious path is to make someone - anyone - prime minister, with Yevgeny Primakov, the foreign minister, at the head of the list. The instinct is to inject shortterm stability in order to deal with the economy. But this is to ignore the underlying problem - politics, not economics, is at the root of this mess, and, until the right person is found to be prime minister, no guarantees can be made for the rouble. The initial tragedy was in Yeltsin's failure to persuade the Duma that his package for the economy was correct. Persuasion is an essential democratic skill, and Yeltsin failed.

So in the longer term would it not be better to allow the Duma to do its job? Although constitutionally Yeltsin has the whip hand, the Duma's doubts about Chernomyrdin could not be better founded. In his previous stint as prime minister he presided over six years of corruption and war. Russia may have no democratic culture, but it isn't going to develop one unless respect is accorded to its democratic institutions.

Ignoring the Duma now would be to compound the economy's problems. More democracy, not less, is the beginning of the answer.

Hare today...

SO ONCE upon a time, perhaps in the days of Brer Rabbit, there was such a thing as a racing tortoise - now extinct. However, whereas the dangers that faced the dodo (bird that couldn't fly away from predators) and face the giant panda (can't reproduce) are obvious, the racing tortoise would appear to have a tiny natural advantage in its speed. So what happened? Presumably, after giving his long-eared friend a good drubbing, he collapsed and died of exhaustion or something...

Electoral reform should not be designed simply to stuff the Tories

Jenkins Although he tried to destroy of votes that the Tories did. the party I love when he set up the SDP I am part of that first generation that was able to see all the salacious plays and films that became available following his liberalisation of the cen-

and the all resident and real.

sorship laws. But for all his political skill and wisdom he seems to be about to make the classic political mistake that has sunk so many people before him. Faced with two irreconcilable positions on proportional representation, it looks as though he has decided to split the difference.

According to leaks from his commission on the voting system, it seems he is going to recommend keeping first-past-the-post for about 500 constituencies and restrict proportional representation to about 100 additional MPs drawn from party boss-approved lists. As a sop to the PR lobby, he is going to change the first-past-the-post electoral system so that, instead of voting for the candidate of your choice, you have to list all the candidates on your ballot paper in descending order of evil and mediocrity. This compromise would have the result of annoying virtually everybody both for and

against PR Studies which have run this system through the computer based on last year's general election show that Labour would still have won a majority of over 60 seats, even though we only got 43 per cent of the vote. But depending on how people cast their second ballot for the party list, it is quite possible that you could achieve the bizarre result that the Liberals would have become the official opposition with more MPs than the Tories, even

1 HAVE always had a soft spot for Roy though they gained half the number

As someone who has supported PR ever since the 1974 elections discriminated so massively against the Liberals, I have always believed that if we are to change the voting system there has to be an honest and transparent logic justifying that change.

Roy Jenkins's proposals look like a simple device to permanently stiff the Tories, whilst giving the party leaderships huge and undemocratic powers of patronage over the pecking order of candidates on the party list. As we have seen in the scandalous decision of Labour's NEC to deny Labour Party members any say in the ranking order of candidates in next year's PR elections to the European Parliament, such a system is open to favouritism on a grand scale and would inevitably lead to even more toadying by Labour MPs desperate to keep in the leadership's good books.

What is so depressing about all this is that only three or four years ago, it looked as though the Labour Party was moving towards a consensus behind introducing PR along the lines of the German system, which guarantees that the number of seats in parliament for each party closely reflects the number of votes cast in the election. Since then, Labour's stunning landslide has caused a lot of PR's fairweather friends to fall by the wayside. The ghastly manipulation of the process of selecting candidates for the new Scottish Parliament and Weish Assembly - along with the great Euro-fiddle - has caused a lot of supporters of PR to question whether the benefits of a fair voting system would must be a clear moral basis for any



LIVINGSTONE

Roy Jenkins will mobilise both sides of the PR argument against

his shabby compromise

crease in powers of patronage of the party machines.

Into this much less certain situation Roy Jenkins's proposals are the worst of all possible worlds. They aren't proportional and they allow party leaders to get rid of any MPs they find insufficiently obsequious. The result is that, rather like the Labour government's doomed proposals to reform the House of Lords in 1968, Roy Jenkins is going to mobilise both sides of the argument against the shabby compromise on offer

It could all have been so different. There is a clear and simple defence of first-past-the-post in that it gives strong government with working majorities more often than not. To defeat this argument the alternative system has to be both genuinely fair and simple to understand. There not be outweighed by the huge in- change-simply stuffing the Tories is not good enough. Those of us who sup-vote is ever wasted. For a Labour voter port PR have be able to show that any in Huntingdon, their vote is as likely new system will produce a parliament to help elect a Labour MP as it is for that more closely resembles the wishes of the British electorate than

the present one.

on the scene, she firmly reinforced my Thatcher I had all the strong government I needed for one lifetime. The idea that Mrs Thatcher, with just 43 per cent of the vote, could transform British society in such a damaging and destructive fashion whilst the majority of the population consistently voted against her is the strongest argument for change. Under genuine PR, governments would have to persuade and win the support of other parties in public debate, rather than be able to ram through unnomiar measures like the poll tax and abolition of the GLC by having the whips drive the government's mindless majority through the lobbies night after night.

In the German system, each elector has two votes. The first is cast for a local constituency MP in a straightforward first-past-the-post ballot. Half the MPs are elected in this way. The second vote is cast for the party that voil wish to see form the government. Once all the second ballots have been counted, the remaining 50 per cent of MPs are allocated to each party in the proportion necessary to bring their total number of MPs up to the percentage of votes cast in the second ballot. The result is that in German elections, seats in parliament are usually within one per cent of the votes cast by the electorate. This means no

one in Hackney. The position in which many voters decide not to vote in safe seats would no longer exist. The days Although I was converted to PR of Labour voters having to vote Liblong before Mrs Thatcher appeared eral in safe Tory seats and vice versa would be gone. At a stroke, elections commitment. After 11 years of Mrs become a positive exercise in which you can vote for the party you wish without wasting your vote, and the negativism that leads half the electorate against a party rather than pos-

itively for one, would be gone. The downside to the German system is that the MPs elected with the second vote are drawn from party lists and therefore subject to patronage. As the Hansard Society pointed out as long ago as 1976, it would be perfectly easy, in allocating the top-up MPs, to select them on the basis of the most narrowly-defeated candidate of each party being top of the list for the additional members. At a stroke this would rob the party machines of any further patronage. Each additional member would have to have been selected by a local constituency, and to have fought as a candidate in the general election. In a country as large as Britain, it clearly makes sense that the top-up slates should be organised on a regional basis to ensure that each

region of Britain is fairly represented. I have no doubt that, left to his own devices, this is the system that Roy Jenkins would recommend. It is also the system the people of New Zealand voted for in two referenda and after years of debate. If we are going to change the voting system, let's get it right the first time, or the voters will

THE FAILURE on Monday of ply want a government put in

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Being Miss World is all about being feminine but you have got to have more than good looks and a good body. You also have to have brains." Diana Hayden. current Miss World

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Men's natures are alike; it is their habits that carry them far apart." Confucius, Chinese philosopher



WHO'S FAST RAPID RESPONSE?

...THAT'S THE JOB OF THE AA We are dedicated to getting to you quickly when you break down. With our advanced deployment technology

our AA Patrols get to members, on average, in just 35 minutes. In fact, during July their average arrival time was just 29 minutes. And, with the world's largest patrol force, we fix more cars by the roadside than anyone else, getting you going again quickly and sately. "Source RA Patrol Performance

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VIKTOR CHERNOMYRDIN may not be the ideal choice for prime minister, but at this moment of political and economic peril he would be better than the volatile vacuum of power that now exists. His rejection for a third and final time in the days ahead would most likely lead Yeltsin to dissolve Parliament and call new elections unsteady leadership, Russia cannot afford more months of political paralysis. The Communists and their allies may be

bluffing, since many members of Parliament fear the loss of their seats and the privileges that come with them. But unlike earlier confrontations with Yeltsin, this time the Communists may sense electoral advantage in the growing economic turnoil and Yeltsin's unpepularity. It would not be the first time that the Comlater this year Given Yeltsin's munist Party tried to exploit economic hardship for its own advantage. Lenin periected the strategy in 1917. The New York Times

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Reaction to the continuing political crisis in Russia

YELTSIN'S NOTORIOUS dup-

concrete méasures in place be-

fore approving Chernomyrdin.

To do otherwise would allow the



president to cheat them again. licity means parliamentarians . If Yeltsin were willing to comare aware of the need to have promise with elected representatives, the route out of the crisis would be so much simpler.

a government which could to return Russia to its Communist past. But few Russians appear to want that. Most sim- Sydney Morning Herald.

political leaders to take the

first step towards halting the with the economic crisis before slide into greater economic it becomes so bad that it decrisis by agreeing on a new stroys all the gains made since prime minister who could form the fall of Communism. A break-up of Russia would be begin to take control, has left like the break-up of former sians feeling dismayed and Yugoslavia. But if this led to civil betrayed. Some of the hard-line wars like those in Bosnia and Communists working to stop a Kosovo these would be civil government being formed are wars with nuclear weapons. So said to want a new revolution it is not just the Russians who need a leader to emerge in Russia. So does the whole world.

place which can begin dealing

PANDORA

SOME NEW Labour guests may have been slightly uneasy about the name of the venue, but they were putting up a brave front at Monday's One World Action charity evening at The Red Fort. A lavish spicy buffet was laid on by Amin Ali's trendy Indian restaurant, and duly attracted a huge queue of hungry politicians. The irony of this feast being served on behalf of a charity that aims to eliminate world poverty and hunger was not lost on one Labour politician. He quipped, "Ah well, another charity evening designed to make white people feel guilty."

THE JOKES continued after the last plate was scraped clean at The Red Fort. The newsreader Jon Snow hosted an entertainment that included the comedian John Hegley, plus some inept stage assistance from the former Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock, who recited limericks. Later, speaking of Snow. Glenys Kinnock brought down the house with his line: "When we look at you on Channel 4 News, we always know you're impartial and we love you for it." What a whopper.

HOWARD DONALD, former member of the defunct rock group Take That, is launching his new band at the In The City indie rock music convention in Manchester on 14 September. As Pandora's younger readers will recall, the break-up of the boy band was acrimonious. A press release from In The City seems to hint at this: "It is not known whether Robbie and Gary will turn up to support their old mate. If they do, security will be on hand to keep them apart."

THE WRITER Martin Jacques hosted a Marxism Today conference in Haslemere, Surrey, last



eminent intellectuals of the left. A high point came when dynamic, thrusting Geoff Mulgan, the young Downing Street policy adviser, formerly of the think-tank Demos. modestly corrected the eminent historian Eric Hobsbawm on a point of - yes - history. Seminar followed seminar from Friday evening through to Sunday afternoon. By Saturday evening, some of the group were growing increasingly restive. During the postdinner session, featuring Will Hutton and Anatole Kaletsky, a man named Richard Wilkinson, professor of social epidemiology at Sussex University, moved to an open rear window and nonchalantly leapt out, landing in some bushes. When Pandora contacted him yesterday, Wilkinson explained: "I did not want to disturb people at the front. It was pretty late, and I was tired." In his shoes, no doubt Pandora would have done exactly the same.

the Evening Standard editor Max Hasting's luck has improved. Though he was off on holiday for such momentous unioreses events as the deaths of Diana, Princess of Wales, his editorin chief David English and the owner Lord Rothermere, he was definitely in the office on Monday afternoon in time to deliver the coup de grace to Adam Edwards, whom he sacked as editor of the paper's popular ES magazine. The reason for Edwards's abrupt departure seems to be Hasting's desire for a "new direction", although what that means remains unclear. A new editor is not expected to be appointed for at least a month. In the meantime, the mood around the ES offices is said to be "bemused".

HIS FANS at Associated

Newspapers are saying that

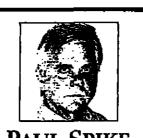
celebrated in a Hollywood biopic directed by Sean Penn (pictured) and Leonardo DiCaprio. Penn, who has had a bit of rowdy fun in his time, including a stint as Madonna's husband. has apparently been keen to enshrine Behan on film for some time, and wanted to play the leading role himself. However, according to the New York Post, Penn and DiCaprio have been going out on the town together a lot in recent weeks. Obviously impressed by DiCaprio's post-midnight stamina, Penn now sees Leonardo as a natural for the Behan role. Box-office considerations have nothing to do with it, of

An all-American lack of apology

WHY DID it take President Clinton so long to say "Tm sorry" about his affair with Monica Lewinsky and all his lies? It's simple. Americans hate to say "I'm sorry". The words go deeply against their native grain.

This seems strange to you since it's difficult to survive a single day on British soil without uttering "I'm sorry" half a dozen times. Even when there is absolutely no reason to apologise - when a stranger crashes into you on a crowded train platform, when an aloof waiter delivers a plate of marinated winkles that you never ordered, when a sales clerk busy chatting to her friend hands you £10 less than you're owed, the automatic response is "I'm sorry", hesitantly followed with "but..."

I learned this the hard way when I first moved to London from New York 22 years ago. I grew up in a city where being street-smart meant knowing that the first person to grab the taxi door handle got the ride. where the most you would ever say to someone in your path was "Excuse me". Ex-curuse-me! Not an apology, but a demand, a warning to get out of the way.



PAUL SPIKE Successful Americans have

the constitutional right to refuse to feel embarrassed about anything

I understand Bill. I can "share his pain", at least for a few nanoseconds. When I first moved to London, people used to exclaim, "You're so aggressive!" I would blush at such flattery. Where Bill and I grew up, being aggressive is a high compli ment. In American sports, politics, business, even the literary world: when the going gets tough, the tough really get going. Bill is noth-

Our American culture was founded on the frontier myth, on Davy Crockett carving survival out of a Walt Disney wilderness. It's just not an "I'm sorry" culture. Successful Americans have the constitutional right to refuse to feel embarrassed about anything.

Embarrassment, however, is Britain's most common emotion. Soon after I arrived, another expatriate offered some invaluable advice. "If you want someone to like you in this country, tell them an anecdote about yourself that ends with the words, I was so embarrassed'. They'll immediately warm to you Even if you weren't even slightly embarrassed at the time, just say it!"

I tested his advice and it worked like a charm. Now, of course, after more than two decades in Britain, I no longer have to fake it. I feel genuinely embarrassed from dawn to

Bill Clinton's glaring lack of embarrassment has been, I suspect, somewhat unnerving for most British observers. But in this, Clinton is an outstanding example of his culture – he's a living embodiment

of American self-made political legends like Lincoln, Truman and Reagan. As Clinton grew up in a redneck Arkansas backwater, it made his rise to become "the most powerful man in the world" all the more American and legendary. It would be a miracle if he didn't believe his own myth.

Thus when Clinton finally managed to say "I'm sorry" in Dublin on Friday, the words staggered out of his mouth as if clamped to a twisted frame of rhetorical struts. "There is nothing that he [Senator Lieberman) or anyone else could say in a personally critical way that I don't imagine I would disagree with, since I have already said it myself to myself." Only then: "And I'm ery sorry about it."

in Clinton's place, of course, most British men would be donning sunglasses and slinking off to Patagonia. Even a British politician like Jonathan Aitken felt it necessary to disappear from sight after his lies were exposed in court.

Until now Clinton's personal disgrace has not been a tragedy, but a travesty, the stuff of a thousand chat show sex jokes. But after Wall Street plummeted 500 points, American

chat show host David Letterman quipped, "Did you see what happened to the stock market today? It went down faster than a White House intern."

That joke - linking Clinton's sexual disgrace and America's economic bad news - must have made the White House spin doctors gyrate in panic. If Wall Street collapses, if American investors see their own profits melting away, Bill Clinton could be back in Arkansas for Christmas, unembarrassed, weeping and hugging his way right back into America's favour just like his predecessor Richard Nixon.

However Clinton's impeachment would be a huge embarrassment for Tony Blair. He would have to apologise to the British people for putting Britain's national reputation at Clinton's service, particularly after the missile attacks on Afghanistan and Sudan. Even more embarrassing, Blair would have to apologise to the Americans who follow Clinton into power. And, if the Republicans reclaim the White House in the 2000 election. I suspect Blair's "I'm sorry" will be answered with a very cold "Excuse me".

Sorry, Mr Hague, but voters are warming to the euro

WILLIAM HAGUE would doubtless deny it. But there is an uncanny resemblance between the decision he announced on Monday to hold a referendum of his party's membership on Europe and Tony Blair's decision four years ago to hold a referendum in his party on the proposal to scrap Clause IV.

Just like Blair, Hague wishes to remove old sores. In Blair's case, nationalisation was seen as an outdated albatross around his party's neck. In Hague's case, divisions over Europe lie at the heart of the tensions and policy mistakes that led to his party's defeat last year. His hope is that the referendum will end the arguments by mandating his policy of opposition to Britain's entry into the single currency for at least the next 10 years.

But will Hague's gambit succeed in the way that Blair's did? To do so it has to achieve two things: it has prove popular with the electorate: and it has to help change the voters' image both of Hague himself and his party in general. Alas there must be some doubt that it will achieve either.

At first glance, Hague's attempt to reposition his party on the single currency looks sensible. Every poll in recent years has shown widespread opposition to Britain's entry. For example, a Mori poll conducted in July found 50 per cent against a single currency and only 33 per cent in favour, the rest being unsure. As the Conservatives learnt to their heavy cost when the pound fell out of the exchange rate mechanism in September 1992, many people regard sterling as a symbol of national pride that they expect their gov-ernment to defend.

Trouble is, while some of the opposition to a single currency might be deep-seated, some of it is 2010. If, by the time of the next elec-



JOHN CURTICE

By the next election, he could find Euroscepticism a much diminished pool in which to fish for votes

the wake of the ERM crisis and once again after British beef was banned by the European Commission in the wake of the BSE crisis. Much of the tween 1992 and 1997 was simply the result of bad news about Europe.

Now that we have a government that is rather keener on conveying a positive image about Europe, there are already signs that public opinion is changing. According to Mori, 50 per cent might be opposed to a single currency now, but the same poll found as many as 64 per cent opposed two years ago. And an ICM poll found an eight-point rise in support for joining the euro immespring that the rest of Europe was going ahead.

The public thus appears open to persuasion on the euro. There is, after all, etched into the public mood a certain fatalism about the single currency, with as many as 70 per cent believing that the euro is also ephemeral. Opposition rose in tion, large sections of British

industry, the trade unions and, above all, the Government have come out in favour of Britain joining, Mr Hague could find Euroscepticism a much diminished pool in which to fish for votes.

Indeed, despite the depth of Euroscepticism within the Conservative Party in recent years, opposition to a single currency is noticeably lower among the Tories' traditional constituency - the middle class - than it is in Labour's working-class base. Opposing the euro might be a sensible marketing strategy for The Sun, but this does not necessarily mean it is also a good tactic for the Conservative Party.

But even if large sections of the public are still opposed to a single currency by the time of the next election. Hague's strategy will only work if the euro is a big enough issue for voters that it determines which way they vote. However, foreign affairs most voters' priorities. And in an important analysis of the British Social Attitudes survey, Geoffrey Evans, of the Centre for Research into Elections and Social Trends, has shown that the party preferences of floating voters have little relationship with their attitudes to Europe.

However, it is whether the referendum will enable Hague to achieve his second objective - that is to change voters' perceptions of himself and his party - that is most open diately after the announcement last to doubt. Not that he is likely to lose the referendum. Surveys of party members undertaken at Sheffield University have confirmed what every party conference observer suspected - a deep vein of Euroscepticism among the party membership, with almost a two-toone majority opposed to Britain fairly likely to be in use by, at least, joining the single currency in

particular. But numbered among the oppo-



William Hague is staking his ambitions on a euro referendum

nents of Hague's policy are some of worthwhile casting their votes in an jungle, including Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine. When Blair called the Clause IV referendum, he did so with the backing of all his party's key players, including his deputy leader, John Prescott. Opposition only came from well outside the leadership circle. Blair's ballot was a chance to reveal a new unity of purpose in Labour's ranks. Hague's poll could simply reveal old divisions once more.

Moreover, Hague's aims could well be undermined by the apparent decision of at least some Europhiles in his party not to campaign in the referendum. The opponents of Clause IV campaigned and lost. If leading Tory supporters of a single currency, such as Clarke and Heseltine, do not camp vign, then they will not be seen to have lost. Instead they may leave the Tory leader with the beadache of convincing party members that it is

Indeed, perhaps the real analogy with Hague's move this week is not the Clause IV referendum, but rather John Major's even more dramatic decision to call a leadership election in the summer of 1995. Then only John Redwood dared to put his head above the parapet, and he ended up winning rather more votes than many had anticipated. Such an engineered contest left it very unclear whether John Major really was still the Tory MPs' first choice. And, in practice, it certainly did nothing to end his party's divisions.

Hague may have his day of victory when the referendum result is declared. But whether it will take him closer to his goal of reaching 10 Downing Street must be in doubt.

The writer is the deputy director of the Centre for Research into Elections and Social Trends

THE INDEPENDENT

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IN THIS room today, are now carried out with a we've brought together

a significant number of active socialists together with MEPs, trades unionists, former Labour Party members and those involved in green and direct action. We already have several thousand members of our constituent bodies, but now we're here to discuss how to bring that mmber closer together in campaigning for socialist change.

With Clinton bombing Sudan and Afghanistan, the Russian economy in free fall and daily examples of the Blair government embracing the free market, this launch conference of the Network of Socialist Alliances is most timely. The developing British and world economic recession will cause more and more people to question the present order a real alternative to the failed and to look for an alternative. For a growing number, the Labour Party is no longer a true representative of workingclass families, and its abandonment of socialism means that it is wedded to the same economic policies as those of the

The only real difference seems to be that those policies

previous government.

smile rather than a snart.

But what has dogged previous attempts to build a fresh alternative to the big business policies of all the main parties has been a top-down, command organisation and exclusion rather than inclusivity. This network must learn from that. We could, in my view, have 30 per cent common ground on the key policies on the economy, the environment, the rebuilding of public services and action against discrimination, while agreeing to put into their proper context the 20 per cent of differences we have between

us. Let us use that 80/20 rule to go forward to build an inclusive alliance that concentrates on the things that unite us, rather than those which divide us. Then we could offer pro-capitalist policies of the three main parties.

There's in fact a growing distillusionment among key sections of the population about politics in general. In one opinion poll before last year's election, 23 per cent felt that there culation shows that more than was no difference between Labour and Tory and 42 per or green in May. One of our jobs



Room for a new mass workers' party

PODIUM

DAVE NELLIST From a speech by the joint convenor to the conference of the Network of Socialist Alliances in Rugby

make little or no difference to their lives. I do not see those percentages diminishing. That is a huge constituency for us to aim for And already we can see modest success.

In this year's council elections there were a number of successful candidates from among our ranks, and one cal-250,000 people voted either red cent felt that the election would today is to begin the discussion

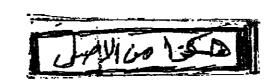
on common slates for next not until a minimum wage year's Euro-elections. Tony reaches the European decenthose elections will be a midunion designed for big business's benefit.

We also need to campaign harder on domestic issues, for example, the minimum wage. The £3.60 an hour proposed by inadequate for the millions in low-paid work. In fact it is 5 per cent less than the average rate paid by the Wages Council before the Tories abolished it seven years ago.

I have often been accused of proposing confiscation when suggesting that salaries above £100,000 a year should be taxed at 100 per cent. But the low-pay trap is just as Draconian. For a couple with two children living in rented accommodation, every £1 rise in wages between about £90 and £190 a week means that family pays extra tax and national insurance, are establishing a broad and loses family credit, housing and council tax benefits, to the time of 97p in the pound. It's

Blair has already said that cythreshold of £6 an hour that that family will see real beneterm test of his government, fit, instead of the Treasury. and we need to make sure The gross inequalities in that working people have a wealth and income, greater genuine electoral alternative to now than at any time since Maastricht and monetary 1886, call out for us to take up the mantle of repopularising the ideas of socialism. We should aim to collect through street stalls and public meetings a petition of 1 million signatures calling for a decent the Government is woefully minimum wage, which we could link to the national demonstration on low pay which Unison is organising.

There's a vacuum in Brilish politics that cries out for a new mass workers' party committed to fundamental social and political change. The Network of Socialist Alliances will seek to offer support to all those invoived in campaigns against social and environmental injustice, but above all we will fight for an alternative to the global, unregulated free market, and for redirecting society's wealth to people's needs. We organisation that is committed to those aims and



Oters

Marine Marine Wall

The irresistible rise of curves



SUZANNE MOORE

Do I want to get my hands on one of these groovy-looking objects? Yes, I do

HAVING SPENT the entire weekend discussing the possible collapse of capitalism, as you do, at a special Marzism Today weekend, I was struck upon my return by sheer unadulterated consumer hist. Obviously I am as concerned as the next woman about the imminent global recession but what I want what I really, really want is one of those new iMac computers from Apple. You may have seen them on the posters. They are those curvaceous, sexy-looking machines. They have ergonomic keyboards and a spherical little mouse. God, they're gorgeous.

It's not just me. Both my daughters are hankering after the iMac. "Mum, have you seen the mouse? It's just so sweet."

"You are not having a computer that costs £1,000," I say sternly, all the time thinking that maybe I could get one myself and then offload my old Mac on to them.

In fact, none of us needs one of these things. I use a computer as little more than a typewriter My flirtations with the Internet and email have proved immensely unrewarding. Do I want to talk to someone in Oregon about whether ketchup is better than mustard? No, not really. Do I want to read on screen badly written rubbish that I would never consider reading on a page? Do I want to engage in the kind of stunted conversation that emailing involves? No way.

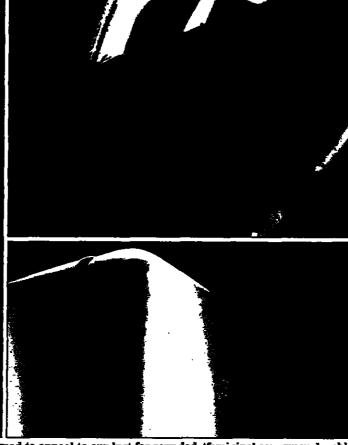
But do I want to get my hands on one of these groovy-looking objects? Yes, I do.

It's always peculiar to feel yourself being manipulated and yet at the same time responding. Just as I can find myself crying during a bad being exploited and loving it. Theoretically I may be able to distinguish between want and need, but emotionally - forget it. Poor little manipulated me, a puppet on a string. Where is my guiding star? Where

is my scepticism? The iMac, after all, is not so brand-new when looked at in the design context of the last few years. We should not be amazed that we finally have a computer that is not a beige box, but, instead ask what took us so long. Isn't this just a sign

 $\odot^{\mathcal{B}}$





These ultra-desirables (clockwise from above), the iMac, the Ford Ka and the Smeg fridge, are designed to appeal to our lust for rounded, 'feminine' consumer durables

of how conservative, how limited, how uninspired the driving forces behind the information revolution have been?

OK, so perhaps they were so busy conquering the world with interactive software that they paid scant attention to the look of the actual things that were to colonise our homes. Years ago I remember some nerd telling me that computers had to be beige because of something to do with the way that the light reflected. As all television sets at the time were black, I never

understood this argument. It has been clear for some time, though, that the "wired community" and its hologram of a representseries, it is possible to feel yourself . Hetic sense whatsoever. Gates, don't forget, is the man who thinks that looking at a beautiful painting on a computer screen is the same as seeing it in the flesh.

Yet, of course, we do want flesh, or things that remind us of flesh organic, natural, roundy shapes. This simple idea has made Philippe Starck's career, and a few others' too. For some time now designers have been using these more tactile shapes and materials, but it is only now that they are hitting the mainstream. Jelly kettles, and Smeg

fridges and Ford's Ka, all employ these new lines. Square now is really too square, and even everyday consumer durables such as washing machines are designed with more fluid lines.

The iMac - note that lower case "i", which implies wacky userfriendliness - was designed by a Brit, Jonathan Ive, who was once a partner in the design company Tangerine. He worked in conjunction with a firm that had previously paid enormous attention to the colours involved in producing translucent sweets.

The iMac, then, is designed to stimulate all kinds of taste-buds, but above all to illicit a more human This is not just a touchy-feely object but a touchy-fondly Tamagotchi for grown ups. You won't, apparently, feel embarrassed about having one in your living-room. The thing is though, if your living-room looks like the average living-room then this candy-coloured computer will look very strange indeed. Most people have invested heavily in television sets and video-recorders and music systems which are not see-through turquoise plastic but are in fact black, matt and as box-like as it is

Never mind "Chuck out your chintz"; really you should be chucking out your black, hard-edged objects, which are as Eighties as padded shoulders. Now we want furry fridges and orange fluorescent television sets on purple stand. Believe me, I have seen the future at student design shows, at colleges such as Central St Martin's.

The Italians have been doing this sort of stuff for a decade, trying to "humanise" design because so many of us couldn't really cope with pure, hard-edged modernism. If you want an image of the way it's all going, I would say think Teletubbies, think childish, soft, huggable shapes. Think fun not as seen in a Technicolor theme park.

All of this is yet another example of what some would like to call the increasing "feminisation" of society. While the Eighties was all angular shapes and power dressing. the Nineties, belatedly defining itself as a decade as it comes to an end, is more fluid and organic and colourful. Is this feminine, I ask myself? Or is it just another form of

repackaging? The lust for softer, curvier forms may be described as feminised, but realists among us may note that

or cope with paperwork.

He was shatteringly indiscreet.

quite capable of handing a confiden-

tial Foreign Office briefing to the

Kaiser and passing private notes from

his ministers round the dinner table.

They retaliated by keeping him in the

to listen to "royal twaddle". Glad-

stone's view was shared by Salisbury,

Balfour and Asquith. Edward had a

"total want of political judgement, ei-

ther inherited or acquired".

business is impossible."

bell-Bannerman's successor had to

it has nothing to do with the shapes of those other objects of desire women's bodies. In design terms the idealised female form is elongated, minimal and straight up and down. Gwyneth Paltrow and Courtney Cox are the role models, not Kate Winslet or Alicia Silverstone, who are considered to be too curvy for their own good.

This is just another example of the word "feminisation" being used about something that has little to do with women themselves. Design has not become more feminine; it has simply wised up to the fact that if we are to live with certain products we would like them to be easier on the eye.

we can use words like "ergo nomic" and "organic" and even, if we so desire, believe that curvy computers will enable us to do something fundamentally different to square old PCs - but they probably won't. Every time I buy my elder daughter another expensive item of clothing that has something to do with surfing, I have an argument with her about the fact that she never goes surfing, or has any intention of ever doing so. No, it's important that she has a watch that she can wear "in a tunnel", because it just looks good.

Advanced capitalism depends on built-in obsolescence. Why don't washing machines, for instance, ever work for longer than six years?

Why do we all put up with the

shoddiness of so many hi-tech

goods that fail and can never be

repaired? Why? Because design is

a more effective form of built-in

obsolescence than anything else. By the time the thing stops working we don't bloody want it any more anyway. It just looks so wrong, so old-fashioned. The machine I'm writing this on is the ugliest thing I've ever seen. It is completely without style. Only a few years ago I was delighted with my brand-new Macintosh; it did stuff I had no idea a computer could do. Since then I have realised I don't want to do most of that stuff, but I would like the

machine itself to be prettier. At a time when we may be in the throes of a global recession I think we can truly define "inappropriate behaviour" as greed for things that we don't need but simply want. I spent the weekend both excited and worried that capitalism was in total crisis because of its own internal contradictions. It has only taken one advertising campaign to make me realise that capitalism is not going to collapse. Not in my house anyway.

RIGHT OF REPLY

THOMAS **CAREY**

A Roman Catholic RE teacher reacts to our story on Audrey Santo, reputed to work miracles

JOSEPH GALLIVAN'S touching article about "Little Audrey" (29 August) was interesting and well balanced. It nevertheless managed to trot out some cliches about Roman Catholics, not least by implying that we regularly indulge in an obsessive search for miracles. Neither Roman Catholics nor members of other religious groups have any monopoly of the puzzlingly

astonishing. The cult of the unexplained is presently enjoying an active media existence. Just ask Michael Aspel, Paul McKenna or Carol Vorderman.

Miracles point to God at work. There is always the danger of fraudulent misrepresentation of divine activity. No religion has any business promoting specious methods of increasing the faith of its adherents, including doing so through the promotion of suspect miracles. Religion, which is ultimately about enabling people to experience the divine, is much too important for such dubious practices.

However, if we assume that it is God who acts directly to create miraculous situations, how could we ever prove satisfactorily that it was, in fact, God who was at work? What objective test or evidence could we appeal to?

A major difficulty is, of course, that there is no agreed definition as to what constitutes a miracle. We generally assume that a miracle must be spectacular or dramatic in form. The fact is that miracles are neither provable nor refutable from the outside. Like beauty, they are in the eye of the beholder. They are something that may be recognised only with the eye of faith.

Coming from the Latin

miroculum, meaning something wonderful, the word denotes an extraordinary happening, but not everything that is remarkable serves to augment or develop faith. Few of life's many strange events may compete for recognition as miracles. I do not feel the need for the dramatic or the spectacular to support my faith. Existence itself is sufficiently wonderful to allow me to stand in awe of the Creator.

High life with Edward the Caresser

MOST CROWNED heads are stuffed with nonsense. Sometimes nature is to blame: royal inbreeding, the ultimate form of snobbery, is not conducive to intellectual sophistication. Often nurture is at fault: a palace upbringing seldom equips its recipients to think about any question graver than (to quote Thackeray) "the button for a waistcoat or the sauce for a partridge".

Yet such is the mystique of monarchs that they are not only flattered igating their vices, in the manner of



OF KING EDWARD VII

BY SIMON HEFFER, WEIDENFELD & NICOLSON, £25

in life but receive undue deference after death. This usually takes the form of exaggerating their qualities and mit-

WEDNESDAY POEM

GHAZAL ADAPTED FROM MAKHDOOM MOHIUDDIN BY AGHA SHAHID ALI

Rumors of spring - they last from dawn to dusk -All eyes decipher branches for blossoms.

Your legend now equals our thirst, Beloved -

Your word had spread across broken nations. Wherever each night I'm lost to myself,

they hear from me of her - of Her alone. Hope extinguished, now nothing else remains -

only nights of anguish, these othre dawns.

The garden's eyes well up, the flower's heart beats when we speak, just speak of O! Forever.

> So it has, and forever it should last this rumor the Beloved shares our pain.

This poem comes from the Kashmiri-American poet Agha Shahid Ali's new collection, 'The Country Without a Post Office' (W W Norton, £8.50)

WEDNESDAY BOOK

POWER AND PLACE: THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES

Gold Nibs in Waiting such as Harold Nicolson and Roger Fulford. But some writers, not content to inflate majesty, imbue their royal subjects with spu-

Andrew Sinclair, for example, produced a sadly misguided book depicting Queen Victoria as the head of a European spy-ring in which her children acted as royal agents. Now, in the same vein, Simon Heffer presents us with Edward VII as sovereign diplomat - a King who "for long periods acted as his own foreign secretary".

Far from being a mere dabbler in politics, as historians have assumed, Edward was, in Heffer's view, the last British monarch to enjoy the "wholesale exercise of true political power". Admittedly, he was not a "gifted intellectual" and his "high-profile role" was played "mostly out of the public eye". But it involved exercising "de facto control over the reform of the army" and taking the "initiative in international alliances".

Ministers often claimed credit for policies that the king, "in his roving diplomatic role, had instigated, shaped and executed". The most important of these was "the abandonment of the Salisburian ideal of 'splendid isolation', and its replacement by a system of alliances with foreign powers, notably the entente

cordiale with France in 1904". Heffer is no fool. He has read well, if not widely. He was given access to the Royal Archives and makes good use of his research. He writes grammatically though not epigrammatically. travel to Biarritz to kiss hands. A June

got Asquith observed, the King "devotes what time he does not spend upon sport and pleasure ungrudgingly It is ludicrous to dignify Edward's whoring, gourmandising trips abroad as diplomatic missions. Certainly, he In what reads like a pothoiler, he sus-

did much in the way of smiling and tains his argument manfully. Yet the evidence against it is so overwhelming waving to improve relations with France. But his efforts, which were not that one has to conclude that this is an exceptionally foolish book more important than those of The Edward lacked even the limited ca-Times, have been magnified by toadpacity required to be a politician. As ies then and later The entente cordiale did not stem a child he was described as not "normally intelligent" and though he from royal mediation. It was the prodlearnt a lot about clothes, food, pro-

uct of hard political and economic calculation in Westminster and Whitehall tocol and genealogy, he proved imabout Britain's exposed position, nopervious to any real education. He could never concentrate, grasp details tably vis-à-vis Germany, after the Boer War. As R C K Ensor said in a proleptic

general election, Edward considered,

was "a most untoward event in the

middle of the London season!" As Mar-

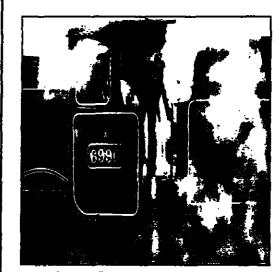
demolition of the case advanced by Heffer (to which he does not refer), the king's constant absences abroad weakened monarchical influence at home. Here Edward did have a certain dark as much as possible.

They also complained about having political nuisance value, especially since he fussed obsessively about promotions and decorations. But his interference - the attempt, for example, to stop soldiers exchanging redcoats for "hideous khaki" - was almost invariably futile.

Edward was primarily interested in By ability and inclination, Edward amusement, not politics. A "corpulent VII was a largely ornamental voluptuary" (Kipling's phrase), he monarch. This was fortunate since loved wine, women and song, gammost of the ideas that did find lodgement in what his mother called "that bling, sailing and racing. As one of his private secretaries complained, they painfully small head" were reactionary to the point of absurdity. However had to "catch snap answers from him as he goes out shooting etc. Then he tempting it may be to glamourise this dim royal roue as Edward the runs off to Trouville where of course Peacemaker, the fact is that he did far Nothing was allowed to interrupt more to earn the other nickname by which contemporaries knew him - Edthe fixed social round, not even the resignation of a Prime Minister Campward the Caresser.

PIERS BRKNDON

¥THE INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPH



Steam Train by Tom Pilston

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Race relations: Pessimism among black Britons is growing in the shadow of the Stephen Lawrence murder inquiry

Blacks 'expect racism to get worse'

GEORGE MCPHERSON is no BY IAN BURRELL stranger to racial abuse. After Home Affairs Correspondent arriving in Britain 50 years ago in the first wave of Jamaican immigrants, he was fully exposed to the prejudice of the more ignorant sections of the native population.

But he does not regret his decision to board the SS Windrush and make his life in the "mother country". Settled in Birmingham and married for 47 years to an English wife, he believes his proud Jamaican identity helped to protect him

happened to us, whatever was

said to us, we could think back in our hearts to our homes and our families. We knew who we were and we were proud of that knowledge," he said. "We were prepared to shrug off prejudice.

from the bigots. "We knew

where we came from. Whatever

We took a lot of hassle. Today's kids won't take that." The level of discontent among second and third

generation Afro-Caribbeans was underlined yesterday by a new study, which found that 79 per cent of young blacks felt race relations in Britain would get worse in the next five years.

That is in stark contrast with the white community, which appears to be overcoming the concerns of a generation ago and accepting the idea of a multi-racial society.

Researchers from the University of Warwick found 41 per cent of whites thought race relations would improve over

Race relations in (Age group 18-24) 79 57

the next five years, and only 12 per cent thought they would deteriorate. The gulf of opinion against the background of an inquiry into the death of teenager who was stabbed in a racial attack in 1993.

The inquiry has shone a spotlight on racial attitudes within the police service and exposed evidence of discrimination. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has said he was shocked to find that black people are up to eight times more likely to be stopped and searched by police than whites.

that blacks were stopped at a Stephen Lawrence, the black rate of 155 per 1,000 compared with 34 for whites and 47 for Asians. In Mersevside, the number of black people stopped was 189 per 1,000. The greatest racial difference was in Surrey, where blacks were eight times more likely to be targeted. Mr

> matter of concern". Despite a series of initiatives by the Home Office to combat racial crime, there has been no

A report by Statewatch, a impact on the number of race Their music, sport and cultural police research group, found attacks during the past decade. In the past three years there

have been 866 serious racial assaults, 482 arsons, five attempted murders and nine murders. At the same time, job opportunities for black workers which improved between 1984 and 1990 - worsened again.

Yet Chris Myant of the Straw said the findings were "a Commission for Racial Equality said there was increasing harmony among younger people. He said: "Younger people are at

The Trinidad-born broadcaster Darcus Howe said: "We country. My younger children, now 12 and 13, are much more self-assured than their bigger brothers and sisters were at that age.

But Mr Howe said the future of race relations depended much on economic factors. He criticised findings based on the questioning of individuals as

'It's a case of us and them

CHERYL JONES, 19, is studying law at Downing College, Cambridge. She is optimistic about her own professional prospects. but said there was a noticeable difference in the way black and Asian people were perceived in the two areas in which she moved - and a noticeable difference in the prospects for improvements in race relations.

"I think my perception is that there is a difference between the ordinary person in the street and in academic and business circles," she said yesterday.

Where I am at Cambridge in the academic and business circles, I definitely think it is getting better, racism is definitely going down. But for the ordinary person in the street the situation is not changing.

"I come from a reasonably poor area of Birmingham and the situation is still pretty much the same among white counterparts in the area that I live in. They are still quite racist." Miss Jones believes the difference is down to class and education. "I would say it's an

educational thing. But I think the boundaries are drawn much clearer in working-class districts. It tends to be very much an 'us-and-them" situation." she said.

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Cheryl Jones sees less racism at college than where she grew up Kalpesh Lathigra

based more on what your academic ability is, what your business ability is, and race starts to matter a lot less."

While her white colleagues Whereas, when you get to and lecturers were more arthe middle and upper classes ticulate in describing and com-

was only surface treatment, a veneer that needed to go deeper before the underlying problems were addressed.

Despite the apparent softening in establishment racist at-

the opinions formed tend to be ing to terms with the problem titudes Miss Jones was conof racism, she said she felt it cerned by the lack of representation of black, Asian and Chinese faces in the upper echelons of her chosen profession.

"It is noticeable that you don't see many, isn't it?" she

6Colour can be a help to me

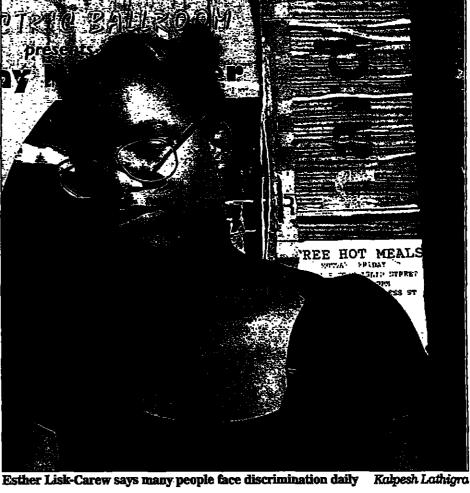
ESTHER LISK-CAREW, reading law with French at Liverpool University, says she is unconvinced by rhetoric that tells her black and white candidates have equal chances,

despite her own bright future. "În legal circles I have found conflicting messages," Ms Lisk-Carew, from Birmingham, said: I found a lot of stereotyping when I went to do my work experience. I heard a lot of stories about black and Asian lawyers and how it is a lot harder for them to get work."

She acknowledged that there were attempts to overcome any potential discrimination. "I have been encouraged to join schemes set up to help Asian and African lawyers to get ahead and get advanced in areas like business," Ms Lisk-Carew, 19, said. Groups such as the Society of Asian Lawyers, a networking club, worked hard to place and promote Asians in the legal profession.

"I did take some encouragement from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where I would like to work. They saw it as a positive aspect that I was a woman and that I was black."

Miss Lisk-Carew, whose family is from Sierra Leone. said: "I feel that as a young black person it is a lot more



barriers, primarily because you young black people are not who was the victim of crime. tend to be in 'a black community' where these barriers do In the Stephen Lawrence inraise their head more readily. quiry, it became evident that he People tend to stereotype groups and so membership of that group raises its own par- be threatening, which is not the

necessarily being helped at all. was seen typically as a young black man who could possibly difficult to get away from the ticular problems. As a group, point because he was the one

"Mostly the racism that occurs is something that I can ignore but there are a lot of people I know who suffer it on

> CASE STUDIES BY GARY FINN

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MP in sleaze case tells of 'knives in my back'

THE LABOUR Party tribunal By STEPHEN GOODWIN investigating allegations of detrimental conduct by the suspended MP Tommy Graham began yesterday in an atmos-

phere of bitter recrimination. Mr Graham, MP for West Renfrewshire, said there had been a systematic "conspiracy" against him, and added that if the National Constitutional Committee hearing expels him from the party he will continue to sit as an MP, working for his constituents and aiming to

Mr Graham arrived for yesterday's hearing, at Keir Hardie House in Glasgow, proclaiming his innocence. "Tve been waiting long enough for this," he said. "I am desperate to get in

there and get the ball rolling. "I'm now going to have my say for the first time in 12 months. I'm confident I'll get aconitted."

Scotland Correspondent

The MP said the past year had been the most "horrific" of his life, and claimed his critics were motivated by personal ambition, spite, animosity, and his "old Labour" image.

"I might not be the image they would like ... " he said. "My back is full of knives. However, they will not remain there that

Mr Graham was suspended from Labour's parliamentary ranks last year after the suicide of the Paisley South MP. Gordon McMaster, whose death brought out into the open years of acrimony and faction-fighting within Labour's ranks

Although Mr Graham was cleared of allegations that he had smeared Mr McMaster, he went on to face accusations

Labour's interests, and the affair became the focus of damaging allegations of Labour 'sleaze" in its urban Scottish

Yesterday's disciplinary hearing was held behind closed doors, with party officials refusing to give details of the five charges against Mr Graham. They are believed to include

an allegation about offering sexually compromising photographs of a trade union official in return for information, "bad mouthing" fellow MPs including Irene Adams, the member for Paisley North - and a catch-all charge of acting in a way prejudicial to the party.

Party sources claimed last week that the case against Mr Graham was cast-iron and that he would become the first MP to be expelled by the Labour Party since the militants Dave

of acting in a way prejudicial to Nellist and Terry Field in 1991. But a dispute between potential witnesses and a feeling that the evidence might be rather thin caused some backpedalling yesterday, with speculation that Mr Graham's punishment - if he is found guilty-might be limited to a further short suspension. He has already been suspended since

> The tribunal is expected to announce its decision today. Whatever the verdict, the saga is likely to be a continuing

embarrassment for Labour. If Mr Graham is expelled, he intends to seek to overturn the decision through the civil courts and he will still remain a member of the House of Commons. If he is acquitted, or dealt with leniently, other MPs and senior figures in the Labour movement will have in

Forestry turns over a new leaf

THE FORESTRY Commission is By MICHAEL MCCARTRY to make a radical break with its past by cutting down 200,000 immature trees to create a nature

The commission will clear 300 acres of Corsican pines from Whitharrow, a fell in the Lake District, and return it to its former glory as a limestone grassland rich in rare flowers

It is a departure for a body that a decade ago was regularly accused of ruining the landscape by planting massed rows of dark conifers across Britain. But its remit has been broadened in recent years and now includes a duty to conservation and to the landscape as well as imber production.

Limestone grassland, which supports many rare plants and osects, is an internationally im- the end of this week.

Environment Correspondent

is one of the best examples in Britain. It is home to uncommon flowers such as the limestone bedstraw and Britain's fastest-declining butterfly, the small pearl-bordered fritillary.

The felling will also remove the inappropriate "Mohican haircut" the trees appear to give the fell, which lies near Kendal and is visible from the main road into the Lake District from the south.

The pines are not ready for proper timber harvest and the commission, which planted them 30 years ago, will only cover its costs in felling them. Whitharrow is to be declared a National Nature Reserve at

VIAGRA CORNER

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

ADVERTISING watchdogs have launched a clampdown on companies advertising Viagra or products given a similar name, days before the drug is expected to be licensed in Britain.

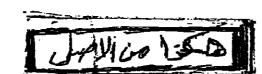
A spokesman for the Advertising Standards Authority said: "Viagra has become the most written and talked about medicine for a long time. One inevitable result of this coverage is an advertising bandwagon, with companies clamouring to advertise

Viagra or imitations of it." One advertisement that is under investigation details the alleged virtues of a drug called Vigorex under the headline "Finally available in the UK. The potency pill that swept America".



That advertisement is the subject of an investigation, the spokesman said. He added: "What we are

doing is warning advertisers that if they try to pass off something as Viagra or try to sell it direct despite it not being licensed there will be problems."



M. W. W. H.W.

Charlie Feathers

MUCH HAS been made of the professional jealousy Salieri felt for his contemporary Mozart. A 20th-century equivalent is the way Charlie Feathers regarded Elvis Presley.

To hear him talk, you might think that Feathers created the rockabilly sound of the early Sun Records, gave Buddy Holly his hiccup, encouraged Carl Perkins to sing "Blue Suede Shoes", taught Jerry Lee Lewis how to play piano, and a whole lot more besides. Charlie Feathers was a legend in his own mind and if a reporter challenged his memories, he would say, "You do want this interview, don't you, boy?" Re-searchers have poured scorn on Feathers' claims but he was in Memphis at the crucial time, even if no one took much notice of him.

Feathers was born of Irish and Cherokee descent in 1932 into the rural community of Myrtle, just outside Holly Springs, Mississippi. He was influenced by the black babysitter who tended him as a child, and he learnt to play the guitar from a black sharecropper. After leaving school at the age of 10, in future years he could write little more than his name.

The family moved to Memphis and when Feathers was laying pipelines in 1949, his pipedreams took control and he determined to become a professional musician. He played in honky-tonk bars, but he also suffered for many months from spinal meningitis, which only strengthened his resolve.

Feathers befriended Sam Phillips, the owner of Sun Records, and would have you believe that he took artist control of the label, "I brought Elvis to Sun Records in 1953, man. Not only did I get him there, but I got him doing rockabilly. Bill Monroe had done Blue Moon of Kentucky' but I showed Elvis how to do it his way, so I arranged that record. I didn't play on it but I was at the controls." Feathers also claims to have played on Carl Perkins' "Blue Suede Shoes", but in truth, his sessions consisted of play-

ing spoons for the Miller Sisters. It was the steel guitarist Stan Kesler who wrote "I Forgot To Remember To Forget", yet Feathers, having recorded Elvis's demonstration record of it, also received a composing credit; he later claimed to have written the song around Kesler's title. "I Forgot To Remember To Forget" topped the US country charts for five weeks - 43 weeks, according to Feathers - and Elvis moved to RCA and international stardom.

"The Elvis I knew died in 1955," said Charlie glumly. "They didn't know how to record Elvis and I did. The band he had when he died was a dime a dozen band, and the Memphis Mafia wasn't his friends, they were just his bodyguards."

Elvis Presley's early success prompted Sam Phillips to start a countrymusic subsidiary a non-union label, Flip, in early 1955. Feathers' first single was a intense country ballad, "I've Been Deceived", coupled with the bluegrass "Peepin' Eyes", but he wanted to sing up-tempo rockabilly music. "Rockabilly is hard to control because there's a lot of jumping up and down and a lot of highs and lows." Feathers told me in 1991, adding, "Buddy Holly would listen to me and he wanted to get on Sun, man. Then he went to Clovis, New Mexico and did 'Peggy Sue'. A lot of people say we sound alike, but he heard me do the hiccup, so who copied who?"



Charlie Feathers and His Musical Warriors (Feathers with guitar) in the early 1950s Gems / Redferns

Feathers sounds like Buddy Holly on speed. He sings faster, hiccups at a furious pace and goes into adenoidal whines. His whoops and hollers are often hysterically funny, though this was never his intention. After Sun Records, he recorded some key rockabilly sides for King Records including "Bottle To The Baby", "Everybody's Lovin' My Baby" and the frenzied "One Hand Loose", which features an intense exchange between Feathers and his lead guitarist. The song eventually became a rockabilly anthem and is as much about being free-spirited as it is about dancing.

Few of Charlie Feathers' records were released in the UK and none of his songs were picked up by the British beat groups of the early 1960s. He had poor management but his own reasons for lack of success would put conspiracy theorists to shame. He was ignored until the 1970s when some neo-rockabilly fans in the UK created a demand for his records. In 1969 he cut the classic rockabilly single, "Stutterin' Cindy", and in 1973 made the album, Good Rockin' Tonight, with his long-suffering son Bubba on lead guitar and his daughter, Wanda, on lead vocals.

Feathers came to the UK in 1977 for a concert at the Rainbow in London with Buddy Knox, Warren Smith and Jack Scott. He was used to small Memphis bars and he was so disturbed when he saw the size of the theatre that he threatened to return home. Bizarrely, he refused to rehearse, leaving the British musicians at a loss. Nevertheless, from the moment he stepped out with his white suit and silver-grey pompadour, he was treated as a sensation by the rock 'n' roll audience.

Feathers' vocals became even more eccentric with the years, and his glorious version of Jim Reeves' hit "He'll Have To Go" bears only a passing resemblance to the original. "Uh Huh Honey" on his 1991 album Charlie Feathers is, in its own way, every bit as outlandish as Yoko Ono's recordings. Feathers, incidentally, was in none such company.

By then Charlie Feathers was a sick man. He had diabetic complications and he lost a lung through cancer. He continued to perform and make records for several more years. He never took the advice of his own record, "Defrost Your Heart" (1955), and his reminiscences grew more crotchety with the years.

Ignore the skewed history: "Tongue
Tied Jill" (1956) and "Wild, Wild Party"

(1961) are amongst the greatest rockabilly records. In keeping with his personality, his epitaph could be a line from "Wild, Wild Party" - "It was a wild party and I know I'm lucky to be alive." As Sam Phillips recalls, "Chartie Feathers was always difficult to work with and that's why we never got the best out of him. That's too bad because he could have been a superb top country artist, the George Jones of his day."

29 August 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

KLAUS P. FISCHER

The long tradition of anti-Jewishness

HISTORY RECORDS no other people like the Jews. Admired and scorned, feared and persecuted, despised and demonised they have been the obsession of a long succession of people during the last 3,000 years. The Germans consummated this long harvest of hate by annihilating six million of them in the Holocaust.

How do we explain this extraordinary hatred against a single people? How did it originate, express itself, and evolve over the past 2,000 years? And why did the Germans who gave the world some of the most brilliant scientists, musicians, philosophers and writers, mobilise this obsessive hatred in such a calculated and brutal fashion that it left six million innocent people dead?

To be anti-Jewish, depending on time and circumstances, could mean a religious hostility based on the belief that Jews are Christ-killers undermining the fibre of Christian civilisation; it could also mean that people distrusted Jews because they represented an alien presence in different nations; it often meant being prejudiced in a nationalistic sense, seeking to exclude Jews from public office and reduce them to the status of an underpriviledged minority. Finally, to be anti-Jewish could mean that people looked at Jews as a malignant and subhuman species that represented a deadly threat to any social community. These strands of Judeophobia rarely formed a constellation or syndrome, not even in Germany, where Jew-hatred had been a long-standing tradition but where Jews were also being assimilated into the fabric of German life and culture.

What made the German situation so potentially more volatile was the fact that Germans were deeply insecure as to what it meant to be German. Overcompensating, they developed an extremely restrictive form of group membership that identified a German as someone who belonged to the same ancestral blood community. Jews and other aliens not belonging to this blood community could therefore never become Germans. This sort of thinking, mostly latent before the First World War, became far more prevelant after Germany's defeat in war and the lengthy post-war crisis that would lead to the triumph of Nazism.

Once the Nazis seized power and dismantled a civilised state, they normalised their Judeophobia and tried to galvanise the



German insecurity led to the Holocaust

rest of the population into removing the Jews from German society. But it was not only Judeophobia that made the Holocaust the greatest crime in history possible, for the deed required broad bureaucratic support, technological expertise, the cover of wartime conditions, the co-operation of conquered countries and satellite nations, the passivity of the victims, and the indifference to Jewish suffering by the rest of the world.

We should not comfort ourselves that obsessive hatred, including Jewish hatred, has burned itself out, for we need only look at the news to be persuaded otherwise. Ethnic hatred is endemic throughout the world today. Nor has the sort of delusionary thinking that led to the Holocaust disappeared; it is still present all around us, though often in transmuted form.

Evil is a reality in history, that is neither a part of our primitive heritage nor a social condition but rather a human moral flaw that arises out of twisted instincts and perverted desires. Yet, there is also hope. Evil may have caused an inferno that fed on Nazi gas and consumed millions, winning a battle but quite possibly losing the long-range war to goodness because it is unthinkable among civilised people that what has happened at Auschwitz can ever be allowed to repeat itself. Speaking truth and institutionalising it in our schools and public agencies may go a long way towards preventing such horrors from happening again.

Klaus P. Fischer is the author of The History of an Obsession: German Judeophobia and the Holocaust' (Constable, £25)

Charlie Arthur Feathers, singer, guipolitical complexion to be two minds about recording that album I FLY from Washington to join for Elektra's Nonesuch subsidiary. With tarist: born Holly Springs, Mississippi Democratic nominee Michael THE INDEPENDENT 12 June 1932; married (one son, one a rare joke, he told me, "When it comes Dukakis in his home state. to payment, they're going to say there's daughter); died Memphis, Tennessee ARCHIVE

There is a feeling his cam-paign has faltered. The New York Times asks acidly why Dukakis is spending time wandering around western Massachusetts looking like a man running for governor again. I quickly realise I am with Dukakis at a difficult time. But strain doesn't show and he is welcoming. In a day he makes six visits, four speeches, holds one press conference and broadcasts by satellite.

achieve better visuals and a sharper message than your opponent on the evening net-work news. The criticism of Dukakis is that, since George Bush came out fighting after the Quayle fiasco, he has been losing the media war. But Dukakis is good at the counterpunch. After delivering his favourite speech on economic patriotism and bringing prosperity home to the average American, he walks into a press conference and, in a 70-second statement accuses Bush of full complicity in the Iran-Contra scandal. The networks are pleased. "Dukakis today showed his strength ... Dukakis has sig-nified a new campaign turn." How true this is emerges by

SO, WHO is the Duke? Being with him you have a strong sense of a man who is comfortable with himself, his record and his ability to achieve his chosen goals. He does not have the Kennedy charisma or the

the end of the week.

9 SEPTEMBER 1988

A need to give stature

to the candidate

Peter Mandelson, director of campaigns and communications for the Labour Party, follows Michael Dukakis on the US

campaign trail

I AM witnessing the battle of Johnson cuming. But he is the soundbites. The aim is to definitely more earthed than definitely more earthed than the enigmatic Carter. He is not easy to read on the values cluster so beloved of political analysts here. He will proudly appear before the American flag, but he refuses to wrap himself in it. He supports America's nuclear strength, but will not buy every new weapons system the Pentagon fancies. He is happy for schoolchildren to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, but he'll stand up for their right not to do so. Above all, he believes in government giving a lead. That's

> AS DUKAKIS (lies on to California I go to the campaign's Boston headquarters. The 10 floors are jam-packed with staff, telephones, wordprocessors and fax machines: it is not one campaign but 50. Every state, albeit some more important than others, has its own field operation, its own media market; its own fund-raising programme and

why he would make a good

manager president if elected to

follow the actor president.

accommodated. Jack Corrigan pulls together the operation for Dukakis, who is determined the campaign will differ in every sense from Mondale's in 1984. Then the Democrats were underfunded, poorly organised and left standing on the runway. But many staff I spoke to still felt the campaign was lacking something: the name never far from their lips was that of John Sasso.

Sasso was Dukakis's bardball-playing campaign strategist who in 1987 had to resign after exposing opponent Senator Joe Biden's use of Neil Kinnock's election oratory in his speeches. I was meeting with the Dukakis advertising team when the news broke: Sasso was coming back. The relief was audible. At a packed press conference Sasso apologised for hurting Biden and he charmed the journalists. I was approached for a comment by reporters whom I'd met earlier and said: "Joe Biden's made it up with Neil Kinnock so there's no reason why John Sasso shouldn't make it up with the campaign."

But Sasso not only needs to bring additional skills to the visuals war. He needs to give stature to the candidate. The Dukakis slogan of "Good jobs at good wages" is fine for an ordinary politician but people want to read more than that in the next leader of the world's most powerful nation.

From My Week' in The Independent', Friday 9 September

letter by Edward Fitzgerald,

THE HON Vera Benedicata never knew that she would appear in a dictionary. She was described in Virginia Woolf's 1923 diary as detesting "the scrolloping honours of the great, calls her family dull and stupid". Apparently Mrs Woolf's word - a lolloping, florid ornament - she plugged it

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

scrolloping, adj. or v.

("cucumbers came scrolloping across the garden to his feet") and The Waves. Unrecorded, however, is in The New Dress, Orlando its appearance in an 1893

translator of Omar Khayuám: "I somehow detest my own scrolloping surname." This was published after Mrs Woolf's death, but oral use across the Victorian intellectual aristocracy is more than possible, and its use should be more frequent. Heaven knows. there's reason enough.

<u>and the anti-state with the anti-state and the state of </u>

GAZETTE

William Bligh, captain of the

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

BIRTHS

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PORSYTH: On 6 September, at Ipswich, to Alastair and Jacki (nee Ashworth), a daughter, Mary.

DEATHS

MONTGOMERY: Robert Michael, barrister-at-law, aged 57, on 6 September, after a brief illness. Much loved by his wife Anne, sons Stephen. Roger, Edward and daughters Elizabeth and Catharine. Enquiries to Quims of Hoylake, Wirral. Family flowers only, but donations to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Fund if desired.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & BIRTHS, MARMAGES et DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at \$6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, announcements (notices, announcements of marrial marri functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £10 a line, VAT

The Independent's main switchboard number is 0171-293 2000.

The OBITUARIES

BIRTHDAYS Mr Richard Adams, former

chief executive of P & O, 77; Miss Pauline Baynes, designer and book illustrator, 76; The Right Rev Colin Bennetts, Bishop of Coventry, 58; Sir Tom Cowie, life president, Cowie Group, 76; Professor John Davis, Warden, All Souls, Oxford, 60; Mr Eric Forth MP, former government minister, 54; Sir John Gorton, Australian statesman, 87; Mr Robin Hyman, publisher, 67; Sir John Loveridge, former MP, 73; Viscount Mackintosh of Halifax, chartered accountant, 40; Sir Anthony May, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 58; The Rev Professor Norman Porteous, theological scholar, 100; Mr Chiff Robertson, actor, 73; Mr James Sabben-Clare, Headmaster of Winchester College, 57; Mr Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, president of Italy, 80; Mr Richard Sharpe, rugby player, 60; Mr Dave Stewart, rock singer and producer, 46; Dr The Hon Shirley Summerskill, former Labour MP, 67; Mr Chaim Topol, actor, 63; Miss Margaret Tyzack, actress, 67; Air Commodore Robert

ANNIVERSARIES Births: Armand Jean Duplessis de Richelieu, Cardinal

and French statesman, 1585;

Weighill, former secretary,

Rugby Football Union, 78.

Bounty, 1754; Alexander Nasmyth, painter, 1758; Zechariah Buck, organist and composer, 1798; Gaetano Milanesi, scholar and writer on art, 1813; Jane Ellen Harrison, scholar and archaeologist, 1850; Houston Stewart Chamberlain, writer, 1855; Ralph Hodgson, poet, 1871; Max Reinhardt (Goldmann) theatre director, 1873; James Evershed Agate, theatre critic, 1877; Arthur Freed, popular lyricist and producer, 1894; James Hilton, novelist, 1900; Cesare Pavese, poet and novelist, 1908; Paul Goodman, novelist, play-

wright and poet, 1911.

Deaths: William I, King (the Conqueror), 1087; James IV, King of Scotland, killed in battle at Flodden Field 1513; Sir Humphrey Gilbert, explorer, drowned off the Azores 1583; Tobias George Smollett, physician and writer, 1771; Giambattista Piranesi, architect, painter and engraver, 1778; Shaka, King of the Zulus, assassinated 1828; Otto Jahn, philologist and archaeologist, 1869; William Theed the Younger sculptor, 1891; Stéphane Mallarmé, poet, 1898; Henri-Marie-Raymond de Toulouse-Lautrec-Monfa, painter, 1901; Roger Eliot Fry, artist, 1934; Mao Tse-tung, Chinese leader, 1976; Hugh MacDiarmid (Christopher Murray

1978; Sir Georg Solti (Gyorgy Stern), conductor, 1997.

On this day: the English

defeated the Scots at the Battle of Flodden Field, 1513; the Squirrel frigate was lost off the Azores, with the loss of all on board, 1583; San Sebastian, held by the French, surrendered to the Dake of Wellington, 1813; local government in Britain was constituted under the British Municipal Corporations Act, 1835; California became the 31st of the United States, 1850; Allied troops landed at Salerno, Italy, 1943; General Douglas MacArthur took over supervision of Japan, 1945; North Korea was proclaimed a separate independent state, 1948; the first hijack of a British aircraft took place near Beirut, 1970.

Today is the Feast Day of St Bettelin, St Ciaran or Kieran of Cionmacnois, St Gorgonius, St Isaac or Sahak the Great, St Joseph of Volokolamsk, St Omer or Audomarus and St Peter Claver.

DINNERS

University Women's Club A dinner of the University Women's Club was held yesterday evening at its headquarters, 2 Audley Square, London W1. Mr Ben Pimlott was the speaker. His subject was "The Monarchy and Constitutional History".

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of York opens the Aspire National Training Centre for Disabled People at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

LECTURES

Victoria and Albert Museum: Andrew Spira, "Medieval Stained Glass". Tate Gallery: Andrew

Kennedy, "Realism and

Moralism: John Everett Millais and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood", 1pm. British Museum: Barbara Brend, "The Juki Shahnama: a 15th-century Islamic manuscript", 11.30am. The Wallace Collection, London W1: Rosalind Savill, "Gold Boxes", 1pm.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr John Macgregor, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway. Mr Peter Torry, to be Ambassador to Spain.

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

Grieve), poet and critic,

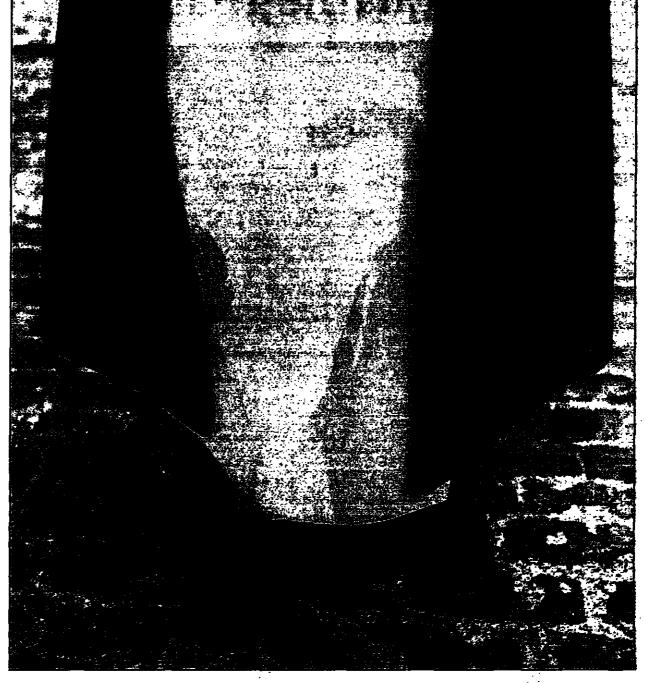
Lean times, long looks

Our skirt hems are around our ankles this autumn ... and that can only mean one thing. No, not a moral revolution, just another economic crisis. By Belinda Morris

Photographer: Kevin Foord Stylist: Charlie Harrington Hair and Make up: Sam Bryant at Untitled Model: Rachel Harris at Select









h dear, I can feel a personon, All the signs are looming around me: I've started gazing wistfully at car boot sales (to buy or sell); I've started to turn the light out when leaving a room and, regretfully, I've cut right back on that expensive 70 per cent cocoa chocolate. But there are other, more telling omens. Dark and disturbing, intimate things that only a fashion person might notice (at first) and they go way beyond the metaphorical tightening of a belt.

It began innocently enough - or so I thought - with the realisation that my me to retract my cold bare feet into, while sitting curied up on the sofa (watching reruns of Dad's Army, which has to be a sign voluminous and slouchy enough to almost hide my feet completely. I started to get that funny cold shiver of deja vu. But so far, nothing too scary.

But what happened next was much more worrying. With the aforementioned fund-raising car boot sale in mind. I began a scourge of my wardrobe, casually throwing out anything that seemed remotely passé-like any skirt on the knee or above. I even started to reappraise some old, calf-length numbers that hadn't seen the light of day for years. A floor-length black velvet skirt, bought at a jumble sale three years ago, was suddenly pulsating with possibilities. Whosa, wait a minute. What's going on here?

Falling hemlines? It can only mean one thing - monetary mayhem. Will there be a Wall Street crash? Well, all I can say to the financial speculators is: look back in your fashion history books. It's all there. It's uncanny, isn't it, how the economic

affairs of the world (sometimes all of it, al financial dilemma coming sometimes just parts of it) are echoed in the position of a hemline? Going back to the beginning of time, there's always been a relationship between clothes and pros-perity but, specific social nuances aside, that's understandable and obvious. This is different. During this century in particular, there's been one example after another of quite deliberate collusion between the money men and fashion designers.

The deal is: when the going gets tough, women should show support by covering their ankles. Witness the Wall Street crash of 1929 saw hemlines dropping drastically; Dior's shamelessly longer-length New trousers were wide enough at the ankle for Look of 1947 coincided with worsening ra went with the look, despite pleas by the Board of Trade to the British Guild of Crein itself). Then, when I stood up, they were ative Designers to keep short skirts popular and save fabric). The mid 1970s saw the general financial malaise caused by the oil crisis, which found sartorial sympathy in Biba's long, lean skirts and ridiculously wide Oxford Bags. And now look what's happening. Fashion's big cheeses (Gucci for one, so it must be true) would have us in floor-sweeping skirts and pants again and for the foreseeable future.

There was a bit of a build-up, which should have been regarded as a warning. As currencies in South-east Asia went into freefall last year, we were introduced to knee-length pencil skirts, while the innocuous enough boot-cut pant (that revelled in a bit of ankle-revealing) was superseded by a much lengthier and voluminous trouser shape. But as the latter didn't quite make mainstream impact,

the signs were probably ignored. Well, there's no ignoring it now. The roubel's in deep doo-doo; Wall Street's got the jitters; the British property market is bury's and Steptoe & Son.

slowing and every designer worth his salt (Ralph Lauren, Marc Jacobs, Jil Sander, Paul Smith, Nicole Farhi, Ann Demeulemeester) sent models down the runways swathed in vards of shoe-hiding, floor-trailing tweeds and flannels.

The high street, certain now that it knows a real trend when positively flung in its face, duly responded by offering passably comparable looks at a fraction of the price. Nougat, Oasis, Jigsaw, French Connection, Fenn Wright & Manson, Sisley and Sportmax - they've all come up trumps on this one. The question is - are you ready . for the big cover up, and if so, can you carry it off with aplomb?

Naturally enough, it helps if you're tall, tioning and fuel shortages (and women young and slim (in which case, you can carry anything off). But there's more than one way to wear a long tweed skirt and keep your self-respect. Street-wise nonchalance comes with the Gucci-esque hip-slung. ankle-length skirt with combat pant-style fly front and, if you wear it with a gently fitted hip-length jacket, it should add some length to the body. A simple white shirt with black leather skirt gives the look a hard edge. Or there's the grand-entrance, a really long coat, over an even longer skirt but not great for the vertically challenged.

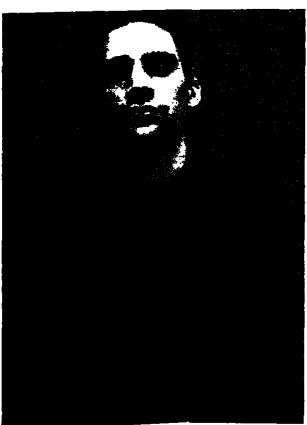
This is a no-compromise sort of trend it's even being decreed that you cannot help nature even a little by wearing your high heels (the flattest of the flat shoes are the only truly stylish option, apparently). But hey, what the heck - there's a war on and England expects and all that. I for one refuse to be intimidated by this new look. Personally, I'm going for the fluid-skirt-withdrop-dead-cosy-chunky-sweater-boho look in pure cashmere (with cashmere socks and sheepskin booties) and then I'm going to hibernate for the winter with bars of Cad-

Clockwise from left: Grey jacket, £129, by In Wear, from selected department stores (0181-871 2155); black ankle length skirt, £159, by Episode, from 172 Regent Street, London W1 and branches nationwide (0171 589 4279); shoes as before.

Shirt, £38, by Jigsaw, 126-127 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-491 4484; brown skirt, £55, by Sisley, from selected stores nationwide (0171-647 4200); brown 'Arizona' sandals, £52.95, by Birkenstock (0800 132 194).

White shirt, £25, by Dorothy Perkins nationwide (0171-291 2332); black leather skirt, £175, from selected branches of French Connection (0171-399 7200); black Mary Jane shoes, £99, from Kurt Geiger at House of Fraser (0171-546 1888).

Long wool coat, £289, by Jigsaw; wraparound cream boiled wool skirt, £100, by Fenn Wright Manson, from selected department stores (0171-323 4821); treaddown shoes, £89.50, from Russeli & Bromley (0171-629 6903).



Hello boys. You look awful

OK, GUYS. Here's the juice. Men can't dress themselves. No, not like that. The problem is, according to the Menswear Council - that men don't know how to put clothes together. Its director, Chris Scott-Gray, saysmen buy clothes in isolation and don't think about how they will look with the rest of their wardrobe.

"The average guy would go shopping to buy trousers and either buy a new version of a favourite pair or a pair similar to those of a friend. He will then go home and put new trousers with favourite shirt. He won't be thinking about what suits him, or what goes together, just that he likes it. This is

what we are trying to change." Scott-Gray is spending all this week, (which in case you didn't know is "Dress for Success" week) trying to help men to look better. His team are running around the country giving make-overs to male drinkers at the Slug & Lettuce chain of pubs, and even targeting radio DJs to get the "we want to take the chore out of shopping and give men the confidence to dress well" message across.

The best offering of the week is surely the Dress for Success booklet. A pocketsized pamphlet full of style tips and non-

But if you'd rather dress like these two smoothies, then read on

intimidating fashion pictures, such as those shown here. Some 250,000 have been printed and distributed all over the country to men's clothing outlets. One page offers the top ten Dressing for Success tips: Tip one: "Be aware of fashion, but never be a slave to it." Tip seven: "Get a haircut, and think of finishing touches such as clean finger nails." Tip nine: "Think shoes - ensure they go with the rest of the outfit."

Hold on a minute. Are British men really that bad? Scott-Gray doesn't look at it that way. "Fifteen to 20 per cent of the male population are fashion literate. This campaign is not aimed at them. About 30 per cent really don't care about clothes. We want to get to them."

That's a lot of men. In fact, according to a survey conducted by the retailers involved

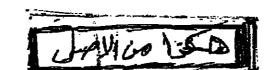
in this scheme (all the big players including M&S, Austin Reed, Burton, Moss Bros, Levi's, Next and more), 45-50 per cent of men would like a few basic style tips to help them while shopping. Scott-Gray himself admits to not being fashion-literate. "Don't get me wrong, I know what's going on, but it doesn't come naturally to me, and I'd say that I'm

pretty average when it boils down to it." His booklet reflects a straightforward at-titude towards dressing. Indeed the basic suit with shirt and tie combinations are featured at length. As a general rule, it is suggested that checked suits should be worn with a plain shirt and tonal tie. A plain suit can either be dressed down with a relaxed button-down shirt but no tie, or a high vnecked jumper. Every man is also recommended to own at least one navy blue single-breasted suit, because it's "versatile fresh and modern".

Which is all very well, and I was convinced by Dress for Success until I read this: "Combat pants can look smart but only when they are fitted and not sagging at the hins." But, dear Menswear Council, being sagging or low-slung (as fashion types call it) is the whole point of them.

MELANIE RICKEY





Man Children

You ask the questions

(Such as: Sophie Dahl, do you feel pressure not to slim now that you are renowned as a 'larger' model?)

Dahl, 20, is the daughter of the writer Tessa Dahl and grand-daughter of the children's writer Roald Dahl Her looks have been heralded by fashion pundits as a "revolutionary" departure from the waif look, and much has been made of her "voluptuous" measurements - she is size 14, with a 38DD bust.

Currently on the books of the model agency Storm, Sophie has been modelling for 18 months, appearing in a string of fashion magazines including Elle, Vanity Foir and Italian Vogue

Do you ever feel exploited working in the fashion industry? Anita, Brighton

I have on occasion, when I've been asked to do things I didn't want to do. However, I think there's a degree of exploitation in most jobs.

Which model do you rate as the most classically beautiful? Joanne Odell, Essex Christy Turlington

What was your worst backstage your grandfather? Have you read

Roger, Putney I got pretty drunk backstage in Paris two years ago. I had quite a bit of dif-

ficulty manoeuvring down the catwalk in 4-in stilettos. Needless to say I was not asked to do that particular show again.

Do you ever have problems finding clothes to fit? Sue Oliver, Camden

Do you exercise? If so, what do you do and where? Emily, Nuneaton

I work out with a trainer three times

made a difference to how we view J Sincloir, Manchester

Perhaps. I still don't know what the "ideal" woman is. Waifs will always be in demand because it's a lot easier to design for straight up and down rather than round curves. This is the reality, unfortunately.

Did you feel comfortable posing naked for Nick Knight? What did you think when you saw the photo? What did your mother think?

Julia McEwen, Cornwall Worryingly comfortable. Nick is the ultimate professional and hugely nice. I was alarmed when I saw the picture because I couldn't believe my thighs were that big. I don't think that they are, actually. My mother was

ne model Sophie Do you believe in marriage? Debbie Penrose, Honts Yes. But only for love.

> Who is your ideal man? Chris and Tony, Liverpool Somebody who makes me roar with laughter, who thinks I'm ravishing with lank hair and spots - and who'll send me glorious flowers. NEVER red roses. Basically, no one I know, deeply regrettably.

Where do you buy your clothes? Nadine, Oxford Joseph, Portobello Market

Who are your favourite fashion de-Nadine, Oxford

Alexander McQueen, Bella Freud.

How old were you when you first kissed a boy? Where was it? Jules Oldham, Lancaster

I was 13 years old. It was in someone's driveway in Highgate. His name was Arthur and I still know him. It was thrilling but very cold, as hot pants and a vest.

What memories do you have of any of his books – and if so, which ones are your favourites? Paula, Wirral

I miss him terribly. He was extraordinary. We used to talk about books a lot. I made him laugh. My favourite book by him is My Uncle Oswald.

What was your waking thought? Sheena, Tounton I woke up wanting to kill someone

who had been outrageously rude about me. Then I thought about the person I have a crush on.

Do you feel pressure to stay at your current weight and not slim, owing to being renowned as a "larger model?

Tim Topple After seeing so many waifs in There's no pressure on me to be a magazines, do you think you have particular weight. But I loathe being

> NEXT WEEK: **BOB GELDOF**

any questions you would like to put to Bob Geldof, pop star, TV mogul

and DJ, to: You Ask The Questions, Features dept, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5DL; by fax on 0171-293 2182; or e-mail

them to: your questions@

independent co.uk by lunch

time on Friday, 11 September

renowned as a "larger" model. It makes me cringe. I should be allowed to be voluptuous or scrawny of my own volition, without people going on about it. It can be rather boring.

This coming Saturday you can have a free meal at the resta of your choice. Which would it be? PS My diary can be rejigged to free the aforementioned time slot. Patrick Smith, Newcastle upon Tyne Nobu at the Metropolitan, I love

What is your favourite dessert? Nadine Kay, Folkestone Rice pudding

What was the last film you went to see? Ditto the last pop group. Sara Peters, Nottingham

I went on a date to see Armogeddon in New York. The film was dreadful and the date not much better. I saw the Beastie Boys at Brixton Academy and they ROCKED.

How did you break into modelling? Danni Fielding, Bristol

I wanted to be a writer. I was spotted on the street by Isabella Blow, smoking a fag and crying after having a huge fight with my mother. She said, "Let me make you into a supermodel" and I said, "All right

How do you feel when you see everyone backstage wandering around in G-strings? Penny Fox, Hereford Jealous.

Do you agree with the 18-year-old model Sarah Thomas's criticisms of her waif-like colleagues? Pandora, Shepperton

I'd imagine that she's probably right - most criticisms of the modelling world are just.

What do you do to while away the hours between photo-shoots or fashion shows?

Smoke. A LOT Read a great deal, and drink endless cups of tea.

Are you reading anything good at the moment? Who is your favourite

Will North, Sheffield
I have just read a book called Lila Sous which was very sexy. My favourite writer is called Susanna Moore and she is quite brilliant.

What do you see yourself doing five years from now? Chrissie Hagan, Norwich Hopefully, happy and enormously rich: married to someone celestial,

barefoot and pregnant, making pasta

in a crumbling palazzo in southern Italy, surrounded by my friends.



I survived Fred and Rose West

'If I had gone through with a rape charge back in 1972, the other girls would still be alive'

hitched a ride with Fred and Rose West and subsequently took a job as their nanny. Weeks after she quit the Wests picked her up again and took her back to Cromwell Street where she was subjected to horrific sexual abuse. Caroline escaped but the matter was not investigated. The Wests later killed 10 women. Caroline was one of the main witnesses at Rose West's trial in 1995. Now 42, she still lives in Gloucester.

about the girls who didn't make it. Just three months after I escaped, the Wests killed their first victim – never participated in – and it made their baby-sitter, Lynda Gough. If I had gone through with a rape charge against Fred West back in 1972, Lynda and the other girls would still be alive. When they started finding the bodies I felt terrible. I just kept thinking, why didn't I say something? From the moment I hitched a lift I thought they were an odd couple. Fred was confident but Rose was dim and had an irritating, whiny voice. She was younger, and very pretty. Fred was what some might call ruggedly handsome and could be very charming.

In retrospect there were so many perturbing aspects to life at 25 Cromwell Road. Fred and Rose constantly quizzed me about my sex life, which I found very embarrass ing. They would encourage my boyfriend to stay suggesting we use their bed, and Fred would reassure me that if I ever "got into trouble" he could "sort me out" as he knew how to carry out abortions.

Caroline Roberts was 17 when she He was obsessed with women's sexual enjoyment and "improving it". Rose would sidle up to me on the sofa and fiddle with my hair.

The younger children were delightful, but I found Anne Marie, the oldest daughter, odd. She would alternate between being hyperactive and withdrawn. It did go through my mind that he had abused her.

It sounds bizarre, but being raped by Fred West was not as devastating as being abused by Rose. The rape took a few seconds, and I knew NOT A DAY goes by when I don't think what to expect. But I found my experience with Rose totally repulsive. She gave me oral sex - which I had women completely as a result. I became very nervy around female friends. With men I became jealous and obsessive, and I didn't have oral sex again until after the trial in 1995.

Fred's final threat before I escaped was that he would "bury me under the paving stones of Glouces ter" with the "hundreds of girls" who were already there. This image tormented me for years, and I still have a recurring dream. I can hear my mother on the ground above crying. handing out pictures of me. I'm

shouting to tell her I'm under the stones, but she can't hear me. Because Fred was constantly bragging, I thought his threat had no substance. When, 23 years later, I heard on the news that a man had been held on suspicion of burying his murdered daughter under paving stones, I went cold. I knew it was him immediately. I heard later that Fred had talked of me as a "duranty run"



Caroline Roberts, the Wests' Katinka Herbert

to test Rose's killing ability.

I did report the attack to the police - and the Wests were charged with indecent assault - but I didn't push a rape charge. There were a number of reasons for this. I'u had an affair with one of the lodgers at I want to train as a rape counsellor the houses, and another had tried to sleep with me. The Wests had told the police about this and I was terrified of people finding out. And my stepfather, with whom I had a difficult relationship at the time, didn't want me to go to court as he was

worned about neighbours gossiping. After it came out, I felt terribly emotional and guilty. I thought I'd been selfish because my first thought was to protect myself, even though the Wests' behaviour had

people to probe into my life. If I had really persisted, the police would at least have been watching Fred. And, on the flip side, if I hadn't said anything at all, would the women still have been alive? Because I caused a fuss Fred and Rose no longer trusted the women they abused, and so eradicated their fears by killing them. I'll never get over these feelings totally, but I have had a lot of counselling and now know that I can't hold myself responsible for the murders. My belief in an afterlife also helps me come to terms with their deaths. People are astounded at how I cope with life. It has made me feel invincible. Understandauly, I'm ... uo-tective of my children. I remember

my daughter being frustrated that I wouldn't let her go camping with friends. She only realised why when the bodies were found and my involvement unravelled.

I feel that I went through this for a reason: I am now nere to help people who have lost those they love. When my children have grown up, and write a book about my experiences. My friends worry that if I talk too much about what happened people will think I'm insane, but I think it's important to talk about it if it helps people who have been through similar experiences.

The girls who didn't get away are always going to haunt me. After the trial I had textible nightmares. I used to visualise another of the Wests' victims, the student Lucy Partington, tied up, pleading with me to help her:

been suspicious - I didn't want I have developed a relationship with Lynda Gough's parents - they wrote to me after the trial because they knew how devastated I was about Lynda's death. Their first letter was incredibly moving. They said they didn't blame me, and that as long as we went on feeling guilty we would continue to be the Wests' victims. We write regularly but don't meet in person. I think the emotion would be too overwhelming.

I often think about writing to Rose. She says she has found God. but if she really had she would confess. It isn't my place to forgive her for killing others, but I could forgive her for what she did to me. She says she can't remember it, which makes me very angry. But I think that abus-ing and killing women became so much part of her life that she simply couldn't tell us apart.



This article is a shorter version of one appearing in 'She' magazine. on sale from 10 September INTERVIEW BY AMANDA KELLY

IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

14: FAT-FREE FOODS BY ANNALISA BARBIERI

smiles Mr Motivator, every Valium-pickled housewife's dream, of McVitie's new Go-Ahead Caramel Crisp Bars. What rubbish all this XX per cent fat-free nonsense is that is now plastered on everything. Eighty-five per cent fat-free may sound great, but it is still 15 per cent fat, which is quite a lot. Yes, it may be better than gobbling a Fuse bar, but nowhere near as delicious.

I understand the point of them. You feel like a naughty snack, you buy an XX per cent fat-free bar of chocolate, you eat it and bingo. No guilt. But not that much pleasure, either. And with not much pleasure comes frustration, and before you know it, there are three wrappers marked XX per cent fat-free stuffed down the side of the sofa.

For that you could have had a Mars Bar and felt satisfied, and your fingers would have been sticky with glorious full-fat chocolate. Instead you feel like a miserable failure.

A McVitie's chocolate biscuit has 23.9g of fat per 100g of product - 87 calories per biscuit. The Go-Ahead version has only 14g of fat per 100g, but it is still 55 calories per biscuit. Yes, I know it is not just the calories that matter but my point is that for an extra 22 measly calories you can lick the melting chocolate off a fartastier-dunked-in-tea biscuit.

Jacob's launched its Vitalinea range a few months ago. Half-way through a packet

"EIGHTY-FIVE per cent fat-free" of its Crispy Chocolate biscuits a colleague spluttered "Oh God. These still contain 16g of fat and I've just had 140 calories' worth of them" (although this did equate to 10 whole biscuits: All in the name of fat freeness. she would not even have been eating them if that wretched banner proclaiming XX per cent fat-free had not been scrolled across the wrapper. Because yes, doesn't it seem that just by eating them you are on the road to being fat-free?

Now take Entenmann's cakes, Hallelujah, I thought, when I saw its (95 per cent fatfree) Double Chocolate Muffins in Tesco. But it is a simple sum to calculate: little fat. little taste. We are all looking for a short cut; we all want to eat as much as we like but miraculously lose weight. I will let you in to a secret; my new book will be about this and it is called The Secret of Losing Weight. The first chapter is called "Food" and it says "Eat less and you will lose weight". The second (and final) chapter is called "Moving" and it says. "Move more and you will lose

Of all the fot-free garbage we have been bombarded with the best was the Mars Light which, in fact, annoyingly, we were not bombarded with at all. After trialling it only in Wales and the West Country, Mars withdrew it. Bring it back! We would know where we were with this; a gorgeous Mars but with half the fat of the Marianne Patthfull

weight".

The sleazy side of Bacon

Francis Bacon's sado-masochistic love affair with an East End villain is the subject of John Maybury's Love is the Devil. Insight into a tortured mind or plain muckraking? By James Mottram

"WHAT I wanted to do with this film was make a Powell and Pressburger Carry On, which I think I've done," says John Maybury, the director of Love is the Devil.

Francis Bacon, denizen of the late 20th century art world and subject of Maybury's Impressionistic rendering, doubtless would have approved. At home with culture and class at both ends of the spectrum, his work is a crossbreed of the lush and the grotesque: Bacon the man, and the artist, is once more the centre of controversy.

Subtitled "Study for a Portrait of Francis Bacon", Maybury's film is no biopic, eschewing most of the painter's 83-year existence in favour of his short-lived and tragic love affair with muse and marginal East End villain, George Dyer. "It's not a film about painting," says Maybury. "If you want to find out about Bacon there are dozens of great documentaries: you can go and watch them. It would have been really pointless to have made a Wilde, for instance. It would have been hugely disrespectful to Bacon, and also to the modernness of his achievements, to do something like that. It needed a more abstract approach to be worthwhile."

Opening, in 1971, with Bacon's triumphant retrospective at the Grand Palais in Paris (just as Dyer is fatally cramming pills and booze down his throat in a nearby hotel), the film crawis back through the mire of the late Sixties Soho drinkpart in the squalid Colony Room club, presided over by the frighteningly vile Muriel Belcher.

With Derek Jacobi and Tilda Swinton on hand vividly to bring to life Bacon and Belcher, Maybury sets out to show the dark side of the man: Bacon the sado-masochist, the humiliator, dragging Daniel Craig's Dyer through the gossip and verbal barbs until, as the director puts it, "he just fell apart".

"There was something inherently disruptive in the nature of Bacon's relationships. There is a certain pre-destined inevitability in ing élite, setting itself for the most even his sub-conscious no longer be-

longs to him," says Maybury. That, a decade before, Bacon's previous lover, Peter Lacey, died on the night of the artist's Tate gallery retrospective fittingly satisfies this inexorable wheel of Greek tragedy. A subject, of course, that influenced Bacon's work tremendously.

Preferring to visually represent the Bacon/Dyer dynamic as a shifting canvas, Maybury uses film the way Bacon uses paint. "I wanted to make the film look like Bacon's paintings. His work told us how to design the film: the claustrophobia; the airless rooms with white, lardy English flesh; the cigarette-stained drink-sodden beings - it's all there.'

Such a warts-and-all approach what the BBC had in mind when hiring Maybury for the project. One ex- of Lucien Freud's models, mainecutive even ludicrously suggesting the film be given a happy ending. Early script drafts were deemed "prurient"; Malcolm McDowell. Maybury's first choice for the role for over a year, dropped out without reason; the critic David Sylvester denied access to his definitive interviews with the painter.

Lord Gowrie, Chairman of the Arts Council and one-time friend of Bacon, objected to the use of the word 'cunty" in the script, insisting on its removal before access to a £250,000 lottery grant would be given (May-bury did so, only to replace it upon shooting). Unsurprisingly, the Bacon Dyer's demise. He is almost sacri-ficed to fertilise the art. By the end, his paintings in the film, while Bruce Bernard, brother to Jeffery and one blank from most of the people he the avant garde. The recipient of ret-



tained that not enough time had elapsed since Bacon's death in 1992 to assess his life properly.

"There is a great sense of ownership over Bacon," says Maybury. "People who had a vested interest in him - whether it be the estate or people who have made careers out of him - wanted to protect their investment. The irony of that is that Bacon was one of the most honest public figures I can think of - about who he was and what he got up to. They didn't want it dug up again. It suits certain people to isolate Bacon from his life, because it's a bit messy. People wanted me to show Bacon as this great intellectual figure."

spoke to for a character reference: "He was like a cipher. It was like he didn't really exist. The only tangible thing I could grasp was the sort of envy people felt towards him because he was being painted by Bacon. The funny thing is, I underplayed a lot of what went on, but to pretend it did not happen at all

would be dishonest." A hallucinogenic nightmare com-mitted to celluloid, Love is the Devil is as radical in its own way as any of Maybury's previous works. Friend and collaborator with the late Derek Jarman, working as a costume and set designer on Jubilee, and editor on War Requiem and Last of England. Maybury himself has known As for Dyer, Maybury drew a what it was like to be the darling of

'dirge-like" Super 8mm essays, alongside work for the Michael Clark dance company and performance artist Leigh Bowery: He supplied designer Rifat Ozbek with a kaleidoscopic tape of his models in lieu of a catwalk presentation, and produced Remembrance of Things Fast, a

treatise on Aids and the media. Fascinated by Bacon's work from his time as a fine arts student at North London Polytechnic, May-bury's film is a reckoning with this past existence. Skirting Bacon's world 20 years ago when first introduced to the Colony Room ("I never met him, I was too terrified"), Maybury's deliberate cameos, from Turner Prize contender Gary Hume to Stella McCartney and Anita Pal- Love is the Devil opens next Friday

rospectives at the ICA, he produced lenberg, suggest a critique of the art world, as much as of the artist. A world, of course, to which Maybury has attached himself.

*There are people there who are all too ready to rip you to shreds. If you can hold your own in that company you're one of them," recollects Maybury of the Colony Room. "There's an enormous warmth in that bitchy humour. which I think people have missed. It's not evil, it's inclusive. If they make an effort to be vile to you, it means 'Come on in!" Comparisons between chronicier and chronicled become too tempting: Love is the Devil is an invitation to an exclusive netherworld.

Pop goes the tenor (again)

Placido Domingo has recorded an album of romantic boleros whose popularity in Hispanic culture could take him to the top of the charts. By Philip Sweeney

A THURSDAY lunchtime in the asks: "Mr Domingo, firstly, what Eden Roc Hotel, Miami Beach. part of your personality is ex-It's a turquoise and white 1950s medium-rise redolent of the old pre-vice days of South Beach - Sinatra, the Rat Pack et al. Placido Domingo is in a menco conference room, wearing a white jacket and openneck shirt. He has been flown favourites, the Chileans are in for the day from his holiday home in Acapulco to launch to the international press his new "pop" album, a collection of the romantic songs of the great Mexican songwriter, Agustin

The assembled media consists in equal parts of middleaged men in suits and glamorous young women. It's one of the latter in terms of access to the few individual interview slots available: I just lost my 10 minutes to a lovely young thing from Santo Domingo, who swept in claiming friendship with Placido.

The question and answer session is respectful and unprobing, a mixture of HELLOlevel curiosity and patriotic attention-seeking. Questions open with requests for greetings to all his fans in Venezuela, or Bolivia or wherever. A stat- "I don't want to throw the stone uesque young Chilean lady to anybody because maybe one

pressed most in the new record: secondly, is "Mujer" (Woman) your favourite track; and thirdly, what do you think of the Chilean sopranos Veronica Villarcel and Cristina Gallardo?' (Answer: "Mujer" is one of his very promising, and pass on the personality trait.) In spite of the generally an-

points emerge. Domingo feels Latin culture is excessively lightweight - an incessant mixture of soaps, comedies, interviews and dance music: one of his greatest wishes would be to re-introduce the zarzuela, the Spanish light opera genre of which his parents were exponents. He sees his Three Tenors work as an "important cultural and social action" in the sense that it pulls in punters who would not go to the opera: They go to one of our concerts and hear a bit of romance in three minutes and think Wow!" And he's not countenancing any snobbish criticism about crossover work with Pavarotti and the Spice Girls... to cover himself, it seems, for the future:



day I get all of that back.... In truth, Domingo has been down the pop road already; the new record is relatively heavyweight, compared with some of his past efforts. Delving into his back catalogue you find, dating from the late 70s, a collection of ballads entitled Be My Love, an album of tangos, two volumes called From My Latin Soul and duets with Julio Iglesias and John Denver (do you see what he means about greenhouse dwellers and stones?).

With the Lara material. Domingo is mining a shrewd seam. For one thing, the

singer/songwriter/celebrity in question – a sort of Mexican Noël Coward, but macho and bohemian - possesses both vast residual fame throughout the Hispanic world and excellent prospects for a cult revival 30 years after his death. Similarly. the bolero, the Latin romantic song genre Lara specialised in, retains the status of trans-generational standard but has also latterly undergone a great sales resurgence with young pop singers such as Luis Miguel

On the evening of the launch we repair to the chic China Grill restaurant for a cocktail reception, for which the girls swap glamorous outfits for drop-dead glamorous outfits. The tall Chilean turns out to be not nearly so deferential as she'd seemed. The arrangements are so slushy," she says. "What I really wanted to ask him was how would he feel if Julio Iglesias did an album of Verdi arias?"

Up on the roped-off VIP area. a short, jovial Argentinian named Bebu Silvetti is the man to tax with the slush issue. He is the producer of the album. "Yeah! Absolutely!" nods Sil-

vetti enthusiastically. "That's my feeling – easy, easy ... Placido really likes this!" Wouldn't starker, moodier arrangements, like Lara's own habitual piano and bass, have been more appropriate?

"No! Impossible! Placido has a big voice, you know-it needs a big orchestra - I use 47 strings. And everybody loves it people always saving to me. 'Oh My God! I love big orchestras! I love big singers!"

Perhaps not everybody. But

in spite of objections that Domingo's operatic style is inappropriate for such intimate material and that Silvetti's orchestration is like a gigantic marshmallow, the groundswell of Miami opinion seems to be behind Domingo. After all, the bolero repertoire was itself partmodelled by Italian bel canto in the 19th century. If Placido can win over the new, young bolero market in addition to the older female listeners, the target of his record company, then he's got a chance of a big hit.

As for Don Placido, he's ruling out nothing for the future, as he told a flaxen-haired animatrice from what sounded like Weminie TV of Miami. He already has underway a collection of rancheros (Mexican country songs) and he's talking to Gloria Estefan. Let's just pray that he's lost the John Denver songbook.

As Mahler would have it

THEY WERE last at the Proms in 1969 (shame), but the good news is that the Czech Philharmonic still sounds like the Czech Philharmonic, Which is something of a miracle given the turbulent times that this nation has lived through, given the irresistible pressure in this shrinking world to be bigger and better than your competitors. Size - as in body and depth of sonority - matters, or so it would seem. A question of national pride. When a delega-

tion of brass players from an orchestra as good, as individual. as this one can approach a well-known American conductor (and this is true) asking how they can sound more like the Chicago Symphony, you begin to realise just how irresistible that pressure is.

But the Czech Philharmonic have resisted. They remain unglamorised, unsanitised, unpasteurised, unspoiled. A little aural adjustment is required (remember this season has fielded a handful of the world's heavyweights), but that is easily made. Certainly there were times in Sir Charles Mackerras' quite splendid account of Mahler's First Symphony where our "modern" Mahler conditioning craved more: more reach in the strings, more resonance in the brass, more heft in the horns - more volume. The "Titan" of the symphony's subtitle strode proudly but not indomitably to his wellearned triumph. You began to

PROMS CZECH PHILHARMONIC

ORCHESTRA: JANACEK, MAHLER ROYAL ALBERT HALL

see, or rather hear, why Mahler requested his horns to stand at the close - not just as a visual effect, a moment of theatre, but because the horn sound would have been smaller and rounder then and would otherwise have been swallowed in the orchestral melee In fact, listening to this per-

formance was a little like turning the clock back to Mahler's day: the naturalness of the expression, the earthiness of the colours, the very real sense of an orchestra striving beyond the limitations of the instruments in hand. Mackerras, a great stylist, knows about such things. Phrasings and rubatos sounded inbred, carefree, casual in the best sense of the word. We were back in Bohemia, the source of Mahler's natural world, all charm and mystery. Dawn broke magically, a whisper away from silence, on this the first day of the rest of his life. In the stop-and-listen middle section of the first movement cellos etched in fragile glissandi whose eeriness was like every forest murmur you've ever heard and not been able to explain. And all around were the singers and their songs, the local bands touting their quirkily homespun routines. Mack-

erras made the scherzo's trio sound particularly homely, while reedy woodwinds and sour trumpets duly strutted their stuff in the bizarre and grotesque parodies of the third movement's funeral procession. A huntsman's funeral with the cast of Janacek's The Cunning Little Vixen as chief mourners.

Mackerras had earlier offered Vaclav Talich's two-part suite from that opera - a fitting endorsement of his Czech credentials (to say nothing of his authority as a world-renowned Janacek specialist), since Talich had been his teacher. So more animal magic, more pastures green, but in Janacek's distinctive hues and in a performance as bright-eyed and quick-witted as its bushy-tailed heroine. Again it was the friendly persuasion, the honesty of the playing that was so winning. I've heard more spectacular performances of Janacek's orchestral rhapsody Toros Bulba, but few as naturally in touch with the feeling behind its strangely unorthodox timbres. Which unfortunately included a nasty muddy-bassed electronic organ. Standard orchestral pitch being higher in other parts of Europe meant that the great Albert Hall organ sat redundant as gruff Czech brass rose above the tintinnabulations to proclaim Taras Bulba's prophecy. No matter, an evening of tangibly real music-making.

EDWARD SECKERSON

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"If this isn't the biggest hit in the

PIANOWORKS, a series of 17 concerts rammed into four days, is a lusty celebration of the piano – and I use the present tense since it is intended that last weekend's four-day festival should turn into an annual event.

The atmosphere in the Blackheath Concert Halis was gloriously anarchic: concerts over-running their schedules, a hint of chaos in the organisation, artists mingling with the audience and vice versa in the concluding "Piano Bash", when six pianists oh-so-miraculously materialised from the crowd to join the six already onstage in two pieces for 24 hands, one of them Czerny's

delightfully outrageous arrangement of Rossini's overture to Semiramide ("Demisemiramide", someone behind me quipped). The music, much of it

rewardingly obscure, was presented in various forms solo recitals, chamber concerts, a cabaret evening, a tribute to Percy Grainger (whose heterodox muse watched over the entire festival), an event for kids, and even a late-night jazz special The backbone was provided by a team of six pianists: Stephen Coombs, who devised and planned the proceedings and Marc-André Hamelin, Seta Tanyel, Artur Pizarro, Jonathan Plowright

CLASSICAL PIANOWORKS '98 BLACKHEATH CONCERT HALLS LONDON

and Leslie Howard, who offered some staggering Liszt

The centerpiece of the entire event was the Sunday afternoon recital given by Marc-André Hamelin, who must now be the closest post-Horowitz -- to claiming the title of "world's greatest pianist". You don't often see concert-going middle-England pressed against the recital room door, waiting to

seats. You do at Hamelin recitals, and it is hardly surprisingly: his technique is breathtakingly virtuosic, but he uses it to give himself space to think about the music. Hamelin can interpret where other pianists are worried about getting all the notes and his musical curiosity guarantees programmes that eschew the Mozart -Beethoven - Schumann axis

At Blackheath, Hamelin presented a fascinating mix of Alkan (including the torrential variations of Le Festin d'Esope), Mediner's Sonata reminiscenza (he has just recorded all 14 Mediner

of less adventurous players.

of Godowsky's scintillating Fabergé reworkings of the Chopin studies (which he is likewise recording) and the world première of Le Festin d'Alkan by the Scottish composer, Ronald Stevenson, 70 this year and now one of the country's senior musical statesman. Le Festin d'Alkan is an extensive demonstration of Stevenson's contention that "composition,

transcription and variation are essentially the same It is a deeply compelling, even disturbing exploration

of the bowels of the piano, a

lesson in how to make the

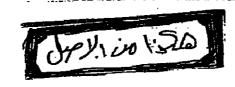
instrument tell. The first

baleful, frightening, and as black as anything Stevenson has written. The second varies Alkan's G minor Borcarolle and the third is a set of free variations which sweeps up the piano literature in reference, studded with three fearsomely difficult cadenzas.

movement is a dark fantasy,

Half an hour in length, it is certainly one of Stevenson's most important work to date and a major addition to the repertoire. Whether other pianists can play with Hamelin's calm aplomb and electrifying precision remains to be seen.

MARTIN ANDERSON



WIDNISH BILLING

Latt. efere ten John Water

The mother of all dramas

Racine, Euripides, Benjamin Britten, Stevie Smith and Sarah Kane have all fallen for Phaedra, the woman who fell in love with her stepson. Now it's the turn of Ted Hughes. By Paul Taylor

onight, Diana Rigg will take to the stage as Phèdre at the opening of the new Ted Hughes version of Racine's great tragedy, directed by Jonathan Kent. It's not the first time, though, that she has played this termented heroine - the Cretan wife of Theseus who succumbs to an incestuous. fatal passion for her righteously chaste stepson, Hippolytus. Some 23 years ago. Rigg starred in *Phaedra Britannica*, the Tony Harrison adaptation which propelled the action forward from mythical Greece to the British Raj of the mid-1850s. The divinities who rent apart Racine's characters became the gods of India, or, as the bewildered Brits continually cry, nearly "India" itself. From Euripides to Stevie Smith, Ben-

jamin Britten and Sarah Kane, the Phaedra legend has attracted many artistic responses and reworkings. Racine's play is, after all, itself indebted to versions by Euripides and Seneca. Not that there aren't aspects of the story that prove tough to pitch to a modern audience. The obdurate militant chastity of Hippolytus, for example, is meant, in the Euripides, to be seen as the defamation of a virtue, the love of purity taken to a hubristic, blasphemous extreme. But, to current perceptions, virginity seems about as sane and unlaughable an ideal as voluntary penury. As Jonathan Kent recalls, from an earlier Almeida production of the Euripides, audiences tend to think that Hippolytus has

"something seriously wrong with him".
The most radical solution to this problem was provided by Sarah Kane in her 1996 play, Phaedra's Love which transposed the story to a present day, dysfunctional, British-seeming royal household. Here, far from being an athletic hunter, Hippolytus was a grungy, reclusive slob of a prince whose denial of love was expressed not in celibacy but in the indiscriminate indulgence of someone who treats sex as junk food. The ease with which Phaedra could get into his knickers - he grudgingly allowed his stepmother to give him a blow job, while idly scoffing takeaway fries and never allowing his eyes to stray from the TV set - threw cruel emphasis on the fact that, essentially, he was as remote as his Greek counterpart

If Kane found an ironic modern equivalent for Hippolytus's impregnability, the Romanian director Silviu Purcarete, in his recent acclaimed reworking, got round the contemporary cultural difficulties by reducing the story to its primal elements in : In his version of Phèdre, Racine makes timeless, moonlit landscape eternally policed by two opposed divinities. Artemis, the Goddess of Chastity, prophylactically bandaged in white from head to foot, stalked the stage like a high-stepping gazelle, with Aphrodite, a dumpy primitive predator whose face was hidden behind a curtain of hair. Underscored by a throbbing perpetuum mobile of sound on the cimbaloms, the piece gave a mesmeric sense of the



Above, Diana Rigg in the latest translation of Racine's classic tragedy of mother love. Right, Racine

Geraint Lewis/ Mary Evans Picture Library

Phaedra drama as an unending, mythic clash of absolutes. Impotent to strike a healthy balance between the conflicting forces, Lini Pintea-Homeag's amazing Callas-like Phaedra and Angel Rababoc's half naked, snortingly disdainful Hippolytus seemed to be destroyed by some im-

a significant adjustment. Here, the cold, pure hunter has himself developed a secret passion - for the invented character of Aricia. It's a choice certain to bring him into conflict with his father and to cause Lis stepmother agonies of jealousy when she discovers that he has rejected her advances not because he cannot love, nor simply because of the incest barrier, but because he loves elsewhere.

performance in 1677, Racine entitled his tragedy, Phèdre et Hippolyte, and "doesn't take Hippolytus's iconic status for granted. He makes him psychologically complex so that his brutal death, when it comes, seems the most terrible waste". I felt the personal, implacable and pittless machine. force of these remarks, while watching a different production of Phèdre brought last week to the Edinburgh festival by the brilliant Swiss director, Luc Bondy.

From such an exalted source, this was a surprisingly disappointing and underpowered occasion. A golden-gowned figure who whirls round repeatedly with an embarrassing, child-like giddiness after she has confessed her guilty secret to her confidante, Valerie Dreville was a reasonably impressive Phèdre, her strangu- force thee away amid general execra-

Jonathan Kent points out that, at its first lated animal howl of anguish and incredulity, on hearing that Hippolytus loves another, acutely harrowing. But as the object of her wild infatuation, Sylvain Jacques was just a vacant pretty-boy, clad in a preposterous see-through shirt and seemingly possessed of all the moral complexity of an ex-member of Take That. So the climactic moment of their cones right back and uncovers her breast before his sword, as if inviting him either to kill or to ravish her, was undercut. What principally preoccupied you was her shal-

low taste in men. The evening was not helped by the surtitles which were full of ridiculous archaisms ("Wait not until a father's wrath

tion") that kept reducing the audience to stifled sniggers. In their own daft way, they bore out Jonathan Kent's point that "all translations are versions". This is particularly the case with Racine, since the consummate balance between formality and ferocity in his alexandrines is fiendishly difficult to reproduce in English verse.

Some formidable poets have respondto the challenge. Robert Lowell's 1961 version has been criticised for being too "post-Freudian", rendering sexually explicit what is merely suggested in Racine's verse. But this would seem to me the honourable course, if the alternative to that directness is a coy and clammy suggestiveness, such as was never the intended effect of the French. Here is how Lowell treats the climactic moment, referred to



Lowell's Phèdre cries: "Look, this monster, ravenous / For her execution, will not flinch. I want your sword's spasmodic final inch". - a couplet where there's a shud-dering conflation of orgasm and death in "spasmodic" and an unforgettable phallic swelling of "flinch" to "final inch". Nudging and mealy mouthed, this isn't.

Lowell, writing of Racine's verse, refers to "the glory of its hard, electric rage". That electric rage is strongly transmitted by the new Ted Hughes version in unrhymed verse. Jonathan Kent describes it as "a landslide of tough adamantine language. It's Racine seen through the prism of Hughes' genius". Throughout, Hughes gives further twists to the intensity of the piece. When Phèdre talks of the nightmare impossibility of avoiding Hippolytus because he and her husband look so alike, in the original she actively monitors the resemblance. In Hughes' version she thinks of herself as the thing viewed in an oppressive, creepy surveillance exercise: "Everywhere I saw him staring at me/Through his father's features." Similarly, Phèdre's feeling that having lost self-dominion through passion she's in no position to take charge of a state, here gains a powerful sense of both psychological possession and loss of political control. The heroine describes herself as "occupied by an enemy/ That hardly lets me breathe." The lines conjure up a ghastly inner stifling, different from the "shame ful yoke" that leaves Racine's Phèdre gasping. There's an unflinching verbal muscularity in the Hughes that an actress like Diana Rigg will surely relish.

within a week is a rare occurrence. Art is, of course, not a contest. However, if you want to think of it in those terms, the Bondy was so lacklustre that the Kent / Rigg Phèdre has everything to play for.

The Almeida Theatre production of Phèdre opens tonight at the Albery Theatre, London WC2 (0171-369 1730)

The actor: Kate Ashfield. The part: Cate in 'Blasted'. The year: 1995

TD DONE a few plays after I left Rose Bruford drama school, but Blasted was a turning-point for me. I was about 22, and found myself in this play at the Royal Court that everyone was talking about.

The tabloids were sniffing around. Harold Pinter came to see it and sent the playwright, Sarah

Kane, a letter of support. Every audition I went to after that, they said "Oh, so you were in Blasted".

I was playing Cate, an epileptic with a mental age of 12, who gets raped by a soldier. What was interesting was that everyone in the theatre thought the actors were having a really tragic time of it, but we were all having a laugh. It was quite surprising to us that some of the audience found it so shocking

they walked out, or even fainted. On the last night, there was even some real blood. It was early on, after the masturbation scene and before the oral sex. Pip Donaghy, who was playing Ian, my middle-aged lover, had to

open a bottle of champagne. The metal bit twisted off and cut his hand. I had to have a fit in which I cried and laughed hysterically, then fainted, and he had to flick water over me. As he





tried to revive me, he saw blood fly everywhere.

He just turned to the audience and said: "Ladies and gentlemen, this is a very bleak show but it's not that bleak. I'm going off stage to get a plaster.

It was one of those moments where you just don't stop a play. I was left lying on the bed, not knowing what to do. I thought: "I can't stay here; I'm out of character". So I got up and went off. Then Pip

came back on, with a plaster, and said something ridiculous like "Where's my leading lady gone?"

So back I came and he picked a line and said "Let's go from there. I realised to my horror that the next thing I had to do was laugh and cry hysterically all over again. I thought: "They'll know it's fake if I do it exactly the same a second time... so I did a shorter version. It wasn't as good ,which was a shame, because it was

such a brief run and everyone wants the last performance to be the best one. But the audience probably enjoyed it more. They got a kick out of the fact

pected had happened in Blasted. Kate Ashfield stars in 'Closer', at the Lyric Shaftesbury (0171**-494**

that something genuinely unex-

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DOMINIC CAVENDISH

An excellent criminal record

ITS EASY to mock the hubris of fringe theatre companies, to knock the spirit of vaulting ambition that often sends our least experienced actors off to tackle the hardest works the canon can hurl at them.

The National Theatre of Brent has become a comic institution by repeatedly pillorying thespian delusions of grandeur with its shoestring epics. A production of Crime and Punishment by 16 actors at the tiny Finborough in west London sounds like another example of a company with ideas above its venue. But the members of Steam Industry

M()

have come up trumps. The main reason for this, oddly enough, is that they don't overreach themselves. The chosen text is the one Rodney Ackland devised in 1946 - little beard of after its initial run with John Gielgud and Edith Evans. The playwright remorselessly shredded those pages of gibbering monologues and fevered descriptions of St Petersburg low-life and delivered the bare bones of the story, confining the action to the house of Amalia Ludwigovna the landlady of the wretched student Raskoinikoff. The result is brief (one and three quarter hours) and to the point.

The Finborough's chicken coop space has been exploited by designers Tamasin Rhymes

ON THE FRINGE

DOMINIC CAVENDISH

and Rupert Tebb, who range us along three sides of the acting area in railed wooden stands, like nosey neighbours in a crowded tenement or jurors at a makeshift court. Stygian lighting reinforces a sense of the moral murk in which Raskolnikoff can hatch his murder-friendly theory of a world divided between lice and men.

The biggest edit is that we aren't shown the old pawnbroker being bludgeoned to death, which helps both to sidestep melodrama and register how impalpable the crime is to its perpetrator. Mark Collison strikes the perfect balance between loveable and contemptible rogue: as scrawny as an abandoned mut, this Raskolnikoff's skin is so thin, we can almost see him twisting inside as he is goaded by police inspector Porfiri, whom the director, Phil Willmott, plays with a smug detachment.

An adaptation could probably thrive solely on the basis of this double-act. Certainly, the other parts are two-dimensional by comparison; so much so that the brief, brawling crowd scenes have the feel of Fast Show sketches.

But the size of the cast isn't. simply attention-seeking - by the time Raskolnikoff's helpmeet, the pure-at-heart prostitute, Sonia (Kirsty Mc-Farland), has persuaded him to confess his guilt in the streets, we are in little doubt that the society before which he kneels is so spiritually destitute as to lend him a kind of innocence.

In Sophocles' Oedipus the King, vigorously attempted by the National Youth Theatre, there is a similar journey towards an admission of culpability that the protagonist holds off until the last minute.

The trick, again, is to keep startling the audience, as though the pieces of the jigsaw detailing a tragedy whose outline is already familiar, were being put together for the first time. William Kerley, the director, achieves this through the positioning of a massive 33-strong Theban chorus, who sniffle, hiss, sing, chant and stomp their responses - punctuating a tribal steel drum beat with the insistent clatter of pots and pans.

Just shepherding them into position would have been worth an award, but there are some stunning tableaux, most omi-

nously, during Jocasta's reve-lations, their silhouettes rise up against the glowing cyclorama of Lotte Collett's parched landscape like gathering vultures. The ensemble posturings are more striking than the individual performances: Tom Padden's Oedipus has a delivery of Blair-like sanctimoniousness, which explains why the gods have got it in for him; initially impressive, the rapturous tone doesn't sit so well with defeat.

Neil Simon's 1985 gender rewrite of his 1965 flatmatefrom-hell hit The Odd Couple lacks the freshness of the original - even supposing one could block out the memory of Walter Matthau's hangdog performance as Oscar, the man who takes in his anally retentive, suicidal chum and lives to regret it.

Still, Pinnacle Productions (a company set up for actors with day jobs) have a good stab, with Alexis Nishihata and Anita Booth providing the laconic versus drippy opposition needed to fire Simon's gags. So what if the apartment looks irredeemably Battersea? You gotta try.

'Crime and Punishment', Finborough Theatre, SW10, (0171-373 3842) to 19 Sept; 'Oedipus the King', Bloomsbury Theatre, WC1, (0171-388 8822) to 19 Sept; The Odd Couple', Grace Theatre, SW11, (0171-223 3549)

A fine case of less is Moor

From a slimmed-down classic to riffs on classic films, Sue Wilson casts an eye

over two shows currently touring Scotland

not deleterious to the drama. ities - characteristics sympa-

t may be a sad reflection on today's truncated attention spans, but there is no denying the sense, on reading the notice announcing that TAG's production of Othello runs for three hours, of bracing yourself for a potentially long, hard haul.

Mid-scale touring Shakespeare has a chequered history, to say the least, with too many companies acting as though the text's inherent artistic Brownie points obviate the need for creative effort on their part, or going to the opposite extreme and trying to be too clever by half.

TAG's slimmed-down - personnel-wise, at least - version thankfully plots a middle course between these poles, though the direction could certainly be pacier and the staging does feature some strangely jazzed-up elements. these mortals be". presumably in response to TAG's main brief of attracting

inger audiences. Particularly irritating is the use of electronic dance music. This is not to disapprove of the notion on principle, rather the fact that here it is not only out of place but completely su- his own exalted self-image - sence of any elucidation. Set in 'Cornio perfluous, even where it is born of an outsider's insecur- a small, run-down hotel just on tour

Mostly, though the seven-strong cast deliver a solid display of mostly old-fashioned virtues, despite the non-period costumes - military uniforms for the men, plain dresses for the women - and futuristic set. The latter remains something of an enigma, with its tall wire cages half-filled with what look like blue rocks, but serving effectively as a screen for

Ross Dunsmore's Iago stands out as the imchoin of the show, unusually borrowing certain elements of the similarly inscrutable but generally malevolent wise clowns found elsewhere in Shakespeare. He introduces a sparkle of gleeful comedy into his machinations, in a manner highly reminiscent of Puck's "Lord, what fools

the various episodes of spying

and eavesdropping.

While he also exudes a suitably diabolic venom when appropriate, this more mercurial approach contrasts pointedly with his master's oratorical loftiness and weakness for grandstanding, together with the tendency to be blinded by struck around a glaring ab-

thetically conveyed in Ade Sapara's stately portrayal. Veronica Leer breathes impressive life into the often thankless part of Desdemona, imbuing her with a blend of ardent vivacity and proud natural dignity. Her artless warmth helps set up a resonant opposition via the production's concentration on differences between male and female spheres of experience.

Othello's inexorable poisoning by the green-eyed monster is subtly cast in the light of current anxieties about men's emotional inarticulacy.

There's nothing remotely old-fashioned about Benchtours' latest invention, Cornivali, a joint venture with London's Insomniac Productions, devised in collaboration with writer Michael Duke but it might have helped considerably if there had been the odd nod to tradition.

For all the show's clever multi-media intertextuality and other such buzz-words - it comes across as a set of stylistic and technical poses

south of the Mexican border, where four American gangsters arrive for a rendezvous with the mysterious Smiley on the night before the Day of the Dead, it draws heavily on the conventions of classic film noir. "Overtones of Key Largo and Bunuel's Exterminating Angels", says the programme. So heavily, in fact, that the actors start out lip-synching to a recorded soundtrack modelled on the genre.

This pretence that the play is really a film gradually breaks down as the characters begin to speak from the "scripted" dialogue, and, as the sound track stalls and loops back on itself, gives rise to all sorts of shenanigans with time-frames and continuity

Beyond its welter of backneyed postmodern juxtapositions, playing with the formal and conceptual differences between film and theatre, any underlying point to the exercise remains utterly elusive.

'Othello', at the Citizens Theatre, Glasgow (0141-429 0022) until Sat, then touring Scotland until 17 Oct. 'Carnivali' is currently

Champagne Charlie still earns a bob or two

Victorian pictorial sheet music offers both cultural insight and small-time

investment. **By John Windsor**

WHAT SORT of people would gather round the drawing room piano to sing songs about the crash of a Jumbo jet? Or President Clinton's peccadilloes? Or - here's a clue - romantic love at the Westminster Aquarium?

Victorian pictorial sheet music covers - one of the last cheap but truly historic collectables - reveal that the Victorians sang about virtually everything: disasters, wars, scandals, wonders of the age, romance, and everyday tribulations.

About 800 of the 3,000 sheet music covers being offered at Phillips' Bath saleroom on Monday - the biggest collection of them ever auctioned - are Victorian. Dating from the days of the £10 piano when, as we say, people had to make their own entertainment, they are a vivid insight into a white-collar world that was cynical, insensitive, suspicious of authority, yet convivial and determined to look on the bright side. You not only get a glimpse of the Victorians, in the lurid lithographs on the

covers, but you hear them, too. Their echoes have not completely died away; who cannot hum the tunes of "Two Lovely Black Eyes", "If You Want to Know the Time Ask a Policeman", "Yes, We Have No Bananas", "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" and "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze"?

Phillips' covers are from the private collection of Nancy Mortimer, a retired nursery murse aged 70, who began picking up covers for pence after beginning piano lessons 20 years ago. She is one of only 10 or so collectors in the country - and the only one who lectures. She always gets a round of applause when she appears, usually before women's groups, dressed in a Victorian black velvet dress with tippet, poke bonnet, and a reticule made from jet beads. She displays her covers, plays tape recordings of songs such as "Champagne Charlie", and gets her audience to sing along to "Daisy, Daisy" and "Oh, Mr Porter".

"Tve had such fur", she says. "At first, I thought how beautifully colourful the covers looked. Then I started getting interested in the events they commemorated, such as Captain Webb swimming the channel. I had never heard of him.

"It's a thrill in secondhand bookshops wondering what I might find. But when I ask for Victorian sheet music, a lot of them still do not know what I am talking about. I find them tucked away on bottom shelves."

You can still buy Victorian covers from their "golden age", 1860-1880, for a quid or two. Dealers who know what they are charge £5-£10. Victorian and Edwardian covers in the Phillips sale are mostly in lots of 25 to 50, estimated from £60 to £150. The musical sketch, "The Wreck of the Titanic", of 1912, in a lot estimated at £100-£150, contains a selection of ditties that round off with "Excitement on Board", "Lowering the Lifeboats" and "Buried at Sea". Drown in the

comfort of your own home. Such fun. The songs were first performed on the stage of Music Halls, in an engaging innuendo-style with plen-ty of audience participation that had originated in the old saloons and free



Victorian and Edwardian sheet music is still one area where the pocket-money collector can invest for the future

suited to the intimacy of the home especially piano duets of love songs.

There were songs in celebration of the Great Exhibition of 1851, of the Great Eastern steamship, of Royal weddings – even of the penny post. Some songs, such as "Let's Enjoy Life While We Can", popular in the 1850s and 1860s, were designed to uplift audiences who visited the pawnbroker as often as they did the Music Hall. They were sung in a style laced with irony. As for the "Westminster Aquarium" - it was a popular trysting place for lovers. Three Nice Old Ladies Went to the Aquarium" is one of the risqué titles on

The male stars of the Music Hall adopted the role of monocled swells in evening dress, who epitomised the Victorian values of the songs they sang. They were a mixture of chum-miness, vanity, sexism and jingoism. (The Great Macdermott, sang: "We

'n' easies. They were therefore well don't want to fight, But by Jingo if we paid £100. The other great sheetdo," coining the word). The top stars were paid more than £100 a week, provided with carriages by theatres

and lionised by audiences. George Leybourne was Champagne Charlie ("Champagne Char-lie is m' name, Champagne Charlie is m' game"). He was suspected of et Chandon. The most famous of them all was "The Great Vance", a versatile performer who died on stage. Ms Mortimer made contact with Vance's granddaughter who told her that her grandmother, Vance's wife, had never spoken of her husband's stage exploits. She con-

sidered them rather sinful. Even in Victorian times, covers were collected for their artwork - Ms Mortimer's most expensive pur-

music artist was another dandy. Alfred Concanen. At least 400 covers by him have been traced. He was a master of lithography who worked from photographs and is best known for outdoor scenes drawn with

bravura and lavishly coloured. There are plenty of Concanens in accepting back-handers from Moët Phillips' sale. His work fetches higher prices, especially when it shows a famous performer. Two Concanens, one of The Great Vance, the other of Champagne Charlie, are in a lot of 25 covers wit 1 the highest estimate in the sale, £150-£200.

The London bookseller and ephemerist, David Drummond (the 'doven of Cecil Court"), says he could expect to sell a stunning Concaren cover for £50, but his top price so far has been £35. Most of his Victorian chase was a leather-bound album of covers are priced £5-£12.50. Both he 20 songs, dated 1864, all with covers and Ms Mortimer emphasise that by the same early Victorian artist, the collectors should not break the cov-dandy and fop. John Brandard: she ers from the music. All the sheet

music in the sale is unbroken.

Ms Mortimer's covers, gleaned on outings to towns within reach of her home in Melksham, Wiltshire, is an example of what the pocket-money collector can achieve, even today. Few other collectables mirror so accurately the mores of a bygone age.

At present, their fascination exceeds their investment value, but the standard textbook on them, Ronald Pearsall's Victorian Sheet Music Covers (David & Charles, 1972), now out of print, is changing hands among enthusiasts for over £20, which must mean something. Snap up these Victorian gems whenever you spot them. Their time will come.

The Nancy Mortimer collection of coloured sheet music (1830-1970). Monday 14 September (11am): Phillips, 1 Old King Street, Bath, Avon (01225-310609). Dowid Drummond, 11 Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road,

Lose your head and you'll lose vour money

OUCH! WALL Street is down 500 points, and the FTSE 100 is sure to follow in an equally spectacular manner. That was how the day started, and shortly after 9am the phones started ringing with concerned clients who had caught the latest news.

First on the phone was a Mr Keegan, who immediately asked the burning question: 'How bad is it?' Falling markets are very

emotional for investors. especially as the televised news sensationalises the losses, which does nothing to calm investors' nerves. "It is fine," I replied. "The

FTSE 100 is only down 120 "How much money will I

have lost?" "Really that all depends on where you have invested," I replied. I then discovered that Mr Keegan was not actually one of our clients but had in the past received literature

"I have got a well spread portfolio, some in the UK, some in America, some in Europe and some in the Far East." A well spread portfolio is, of course, beneficial in times of falling markets but it does depend on the underlying stocks held.

"My main concern," he continued, "is a holding I purchased very recently in Fidelity ASEAN, I thought it was good to buy the Far East after it had fallen so much but now I am not so sure."

"That was a very brave move," I said. "Troubles in the Far East are by no means over, and that particular fund has a very high exposure to Malaysia which has got some fairly major political problems at present as well." Should I pull out and cut

my losses, or do you think I should stay put." It was at this stage of the conversation that I was about to discover . whether Mr Keegan was a speculator or an investor. "Did you invest in this fund and all your other funds with the long-term view in mind?'

"Yes. I do not need the money. It is there for at least five, if not 10, years."

"In that case you really should not worry, the worst thing you can do is to come out of the market at a time when it has fallen heavily. I cannot guarantee that the market will not be lower in the next few months.

However, if you have taken a long-term view and do not need the money, then you should sit tight and ride the storm out." Mr Keegan then asked

about two of his other funds, **INVESCO European Growth** and Fidelity Special Situations. His question this time was whether, even though he has held them both for some time and made good money, he should cash them in and then reinvest the money when the market falls

"Both are excellent funds, and there is no need to dispose of either if they fit in with your investment strategy and you have got that longterm perspective," I replied. "Timing the market is

THE FIXERS



TIM COCKERILL

extremely difficult. You can certainly say it is cheaper today than it was a month ago but there is no guarantee it is going to be cheaper in a few days or weeks.

So, if you did sell your Fidelity Special Situations and INVESCO European Growth funds, you may find that you are left with cash as the market rises. Sit tight."

The big danger in playing the strategy Mr Keegan was suggesting is that you miss some major rises in the markets when sentiment turns. If you look back at market performance it is quite noticeable that, by being out of the market during a small number of days when it rises strongly, your long-term results can suffer seriously.

Despite my words and Mr Keegan's assurance that he was a long-term investor, he persisted in exploring other opportunities that might help him. He next asked: "Should I

By being out of the market during a small number of days when it rises strongly, your longterm results can suffer seriously

invest in a protected fund so that, if the market falls again, I will be safe?"

"I do not see any point in buying a protected fund after the market has fallen; they are for cautious investors taking a long-term view, or they can be used to lower the risk of a portfolio after a long bull run in the market," I said.

"Had you bought a protected fund when the FTSE 100 index reached 6,000, you would be doing very nicely, thank you. But you have got to bear in mind protection costs, and the performance of these funds when the market rises has, in some instances, been disappointing."

"So all told, your advice is to stay put and not move." Mr Keegan said.

"Yes," I replied. "If you have got your investment strategy right at the outset then you can ride out sharp corrections in markets in

Tim Cockerill is managing director of the independent financial advisers Whitechurch Securities. which is based at 14 Gloucester Road, Bristol, BS7 84E (0117 9442266)

Low inflation turns the tables on endowment mortgages

After years of being out of favour, repayment schemes are all the rage. By Rachel Fixsen

THE REPAYMENT mortgage is back in favour. The image of its main rival, the endowment mortgage, has been well and truly tarnished, and now another sparring partner, the PEP mortgage, is also down in

Repayment mortgages now account for 43 per cent of all mortgages taken out, up from 24 per cent five years ago.

Just 32 per cent of all home loans are now endowment mortgages, down from around 80 per cent in the last decade.

Lenders put the change down to low inflation. Sue Anderson, at the Council of Mortgage Lenders, says: "When inflation is low there is obviously an advantage to paying your mortgage off, but when inflation is high and is eroding the value of your mortgage, that's not

There are four main types of mortgage repayment: with capital and a certain amount of capital. In the early years, the payments

are mostly interest and very little capital, and the balance shifts towards interest as the term of the mortgage goes on.

The other types are endowment, PEP and pension mortgages. These are all interest-only mort-

gages, coupled with an investment £15 a month. product. The borrower pays interest to the lender and premiums into an investment product, the idea being that at the end of the term, the investment portion will have grown large enough to pay off the mortgage in full.

Repayment mortgages are generally slightly cheaper than others. For a couple aged about 40,

and interest repayment, each monthly payments on a £100,000 month's payment to the lender loan over 20 years at a capped rate consists of interest due on the loan of 6.59 per cent would be £818.28 a month, including term life assurance, according to the indepen-dent financial adviser Dawn Slater.

The monthly cost of an endowment mortgage for the same couple at the same rate would be £828.82, while a PEP deal would cost £848.21. Tax relief is available, and would cut these figures by around

Which type of repayment you decide to oot for depends largely on your attitude to risk.

Endowmer: and PEP mortgages rely on the performance of investments. Opting for a capital and interest repayment mortgage is the safest way, says Ms Slater. "It's the only way you can guarantee to get

The main attraction of endow ment and PEP mortgages is that the investment will perform well and provide an extra lump sum. Some borrowers have found that

their endowment policy is not even on track to pay off the mortgage, and have had to increase premiums. And some of those who surrendered their endowment policies in the early years, perhaps because of divorce, found they got less money back than they had put in because of high charges levied at the start of the policy's life.

Anyway, the prospect of making a large profit is little more than a forlorn hope, says Philip Telford, of the Consumers' Association.

"You may have £10,000 more, but after 25 years think how much that would be worth... and that's if you stay the course.

to cash in their endowment policy

in the first 10 years," he says. Ms Slater defends endowment mortgages. Provided you do not cash them in early, traditional withprofits endowment policies have generally done well, she says.

The bad press has centred around certain mortgage providers, while others, including General Accident, have consistently come up trumps, she says.

PEP mortgages became popular in the Nineties. PEPs are far more flexible as investment products and charges are spread much more evenly. However, they are more risky than endowment policies.

Next April they will be replaced with ISAs, (individual savings accounts), and although PEPs can be transferred to ISAs, the choice of

"Thirty per cent of people have PEP has become more limited recently, ahead of the change.

Many people find that lenders and advisers steer them away from repayment mortgages and towards PEP or endowment mortgages. Repayment mortgages are not portable, it is claimed

"It's a myth," says Philip Telford. "I don't think that there is a portability problem."

It is true that if you move house during the 25-year term, with a repayment mortgage you have to repay the mortgage and start again with a new term. But there is nothing to stop you taking a shorter mortgage term the next time.

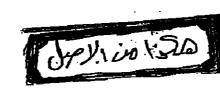
However, in practice the temptation to take out another 25-year Dawn Slater Associates: 01635 mortgage often proves too much to resist. "Most of the time, people want to keep their costs down," says

Ms Slater. "The shorter the mortgage term for a repayment mortgage, the higher the monthly cost will be, because of the capital repayment element."

Financial advisers get more commission for selling an endowment mortgage than for the life insurance that usually goes with a repayment mortgage. Though the commission level is about the same. and can be 33 per cent of premiums paid in the first three years, a typical endowment policy premium would be around 10 times the premium of a term life assurance contract, says Mr Telford.

Of course, a good adviser will recommend the best product for the client, regardless of commission. but watch out for the bad ones.

45325; Consumers' Association; 0171-830 6000: Council of Mortgage Lenders: 0171-440 2255





All BATTER TO

FINANCE

Management accountants are on a roll. Time to rationalise the training? By Roger Trapp

Engine room vs boardroom

IGNORE FOR the moment the need to rationalise the governance of accountancy, and it is hard to see why the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (Cima) is even considering throwing in its lot with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (Acca) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa).

By common consent, the management accountants are on a roll. Chartered accountants have tended to look down on a qualification that is associated with factory floors and the engine rooms, rather than boardrooms, of business. But leading firms are now starting to share the views of the recruitment consultants who have for some time been stressing the value of management accountancy to a whole

range of businesses.
With the Institute of Chartered Accountants' latest plans to update its training syllabus in danger of being jeopardised by the traditionalists, at least one executive with a Big Five firm has let it be known that his operation would be interested in shifting numbers from the institute's training scheme if a viable alternative emerged.

Such views are a vindication of the vision of Peter Layhe, president of Cima, to create out of his organisation, Acca and Cipfa, a body that can rival the institute in size and

most attractive specialisms would



Accountants with experience of the shop floor are in demand

be likely to be management accountancy. The certified qualification is hugely popular overseas, but tends to be regarded in the UK as a second fiddle to the Institute's, and the transformation of public sector accounting into something closer to that practised in the private sector However, it is fair to say that the may be reducing the need for a fullblown separate qualification.

But management accountancy is, as James Wheeler, chief executive of Hewitson-Walker, points out, popular "in the market at large". By which he means business as a whole, as opposed to the "mini-markets" of the City and public practice.

But, he adds, even investment banks have begun taking on graduates with the aim of putting them

Glyn Griffiths through management accountancy

training because they have not

been totally satisfied with newly

qualified chartered accountants. All these organisations are see-ing the high "added value" in the report-writing skills, budgeting and analysis - combined with practical IT skills - that are the management

accountant's stock-in-trade

Jeff Grout, managing director of Robert Half International, says that the popularity of the qualification is largely a "reflection of the chang-ing role of the accountant". The chartered accountant's training may be more rigorous, but the management accountant is reckoned to be "more practical, more commercial and more relevant".

But it is not just employers who are seeing the value of the qualification. Recruitment consultants report that many graduates who previously would unthinkingly have gone off to the top firms, even if they intended to go into business later, are now opting to go straight there.

People are making a "much more balanced decision about whether to go through chartered accountancy or to go out into the big wide world", says Mr Wheeler.

Mr Grout agrees. There is, he says, a growing appreciation that they may get a wider education through Cima than through the chartered route - though he adds that, highly rated as the management accountancy qualification is in Britain, it is not nearly as well known overseas as the chartered. In an effort to correct this, his company is organising seminars in European cities to explain the role of management accountants.

If foreign companies get that message, then his conviction that management accountancy is "the passport to a career in business" can be borne out.

Russia's got us by the roubles

IT MIGHT have been better all round if Laura hadn't removed Norman's life-history from the "Obviously made up CVs" section of Rory's filing system. The look on Normski's face would have been a laugh, if nothing else, and laughs are in short supply round here at the

The problem - surprise. surprise - is Russia, which is finding out the hard way that there's more to being capitalist than drinking Coke. Curiously no one there seems to have considered that it might be easier to reform if you change the people running the country, not just the name of their party. But that's politics for you: anyone bright enough to be good at it is bright enough to

steer well clear. The result of this stupidity is misery all round. "You're not wrong," says Neil, "I mean, we can kiss goodbye to our bonuses for a start." I gently point out that I was actually thinking about the man on the Moscow street, but Neil's having none of it. "They can't have lost more than a few hundred dollars each. That's sod all compared to what I was expecting to pull down this year. They've no right to be miserable at all."

He does have a point about the bonuses. The last time round, I effectively doubled my income for the year. This Christmas, I'll be surprised if there's enough in the coffers to pay for wrapping paper. Not that any of the big cheeses has said anything about how badly we've been hit by the problems in Moscow. Still, if BankAmerica and Deutsche have had to fess up to being caned on their exposure to the teetering former superpower, I find it hard to believe our lot have got

away scot-free. So we just have to sit and wait for the board to let us in on what's happening. "Or we could just find out about it in the

THE TRADER



says Laura, no doubt remembering previous occasions when the honchos "forgot" to tell their staff before they told the journalists. "It's so stupid," she continues. "They must realise how wound up everyone gets wondering if they're waving goodbye to their bonuses or maybe even their jobs, and all because someone's been going: A loan, Mr Yeltsin? Of course. Take double. And don't worry about security.'

Jenny the Junior stamps over to take the lunch orders, and announces she's going to the new sandwich place on the other side of the City. "It'll get me out of this dump for at least half an hour," she says, "Well, it's all you lot sitting around like someone's died, just coz you think your bonuses have gone walkabout. You'll be leaving flowers on the steps of the Stock Exchange next, Besides, the support staff don't ever get handouts anyway."

She hasn't gone far when Norman calls her back. "Everybody stay at your desks for a second. I want to have a quick meeting about this memo from upstairs. I think it will

bring a smile to your faces." Laura and I look at each other. Is this the bombshell we've been expecting?

Norman continues: "It's good news. The board is categorically denying that we have been in any way affected by the problems in Russia."

"Oh Laura," I say. "It's even worse than we expected."

IN BRIEF

FIRMS CONSIDERING floating on the stock market should pay more attention to preparing the way, say the accountants Ernst & Young. The firm's survey of more than 500 chief executives of fastgrowing companies found that more than a quarter judged their flotations unsuccessful, with nearly two-thirds attributing this to a lack of preparation.

THE TOP 20 accountancy firm Saffery Champness claims its focus on high-net-worth private clients and owner-managers has been vindicated by strong growth over the past year. The firm said net fees of nearly £22m were well ahead of budget; its position had been strengthened by hiring extra private-client specialists from rival practices.

ALISTAIR DEFRIEZ, director general of the takeover panel, heads the list of speakers at a confer-

guide practitioners through the workings of the revised City code on takeovers and mergers. The event, which will be addressed by several prominent solicitors, takes place at London's Four Seasons Hotel.

INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES remain positive about their own prospects, despite worries about the economy as a whole, says the measures views on the business climate by companies in which 3i invests. shows that most ownermanaged businesses expect turnover, profitability and investment to increase or remain stable for the current quarter.

ANTIQUES DEALERS, vehicle hire companies and builders' merchants are among top targets for cheque fraudsters, according to the Equifax, provider of the Transax Cheque Guarantee

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Service. The organisation has detected and declined more than £17.6m of fraudulent cheques over the past 24 months.

MANY OF Europe's family-run businesses are failing to monitor key performance indicators, says the Family Business Report. Many of them fail to heed such classic early warning signals as

Financial Times, as usual." 3i UK Enterprise Barometer low levels of debts, stock and ence on 29 September intended to Index. The survey, which outstanding orders.

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erve your place and/or to discuss current options with big five firms recruiting for audit, consultancy, tax and corporate finance roles, call Espeth Rumbelow merce and industry on 8171 628 8785. For roles in cons

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and president of an international association of accountants, describes how you can head west and advance your career in con

Whether you're looking for a taste of adventure for six morths, a two year secondment or to emigrate, you can find the answers at our laternal evening aboard the loony "Elizabethan" (equipped even for British autuum Town, outlines what it takes to succeed in a big five manager. Caroline Rivett, serior manager, Ernst & Young, Cape firm in South Africa and worldwide 8.00pm - "Which way now?" - Condusions and

choices resulting from the presentati 8.10pm - Buffet - as well as informal discussions on what you need to know next 9.15-9.30pm - Disembark at Charing Cross Pier

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The Independent, 9 September 1998

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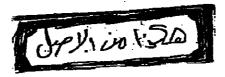
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SOCIATE

Your desk says more about you than your CV - and bosses know it. By Kate Hilpern

The secret life of desks

re you prone to workspace customisation? Are there so many photos, pot-plants and Jarvis Cocker posters urrounding your desk that the phrase "taking work home" might as well be replaced by "bringing home to work"? Or is your desk in such excellent nick that you can actually see your own reflection in

Whatever the answer, it probably says a lot more about you than you think. A recent study by recruitment agency Adecco Alfred Marks claims that, simply by analysing a desk's contents, employers can learn more about their employees than by studying a CV. "Desks can reveal their owners' innermost secrets, inhibitions, lifestyle and professional ambitions," explains psychologist Donna Dawson, who carried out the study. What's more, your worktop is very often the first impression that people get of you - and, in business, first impressions count.

According to Dawson, there are six principal "desk personalities", two of which win hands down for tidiness. But since they are almost opposites in terms of character, it takes close analysis to differentiate them accurately.

"First, the desk of the 'super-or-ganised' desktop personality is functional and neat with no fuss or frills." Likely to be inhabited by a super-efficient PA or secretary, this desktop is largely taken up by essential office equipment, leaving little room for clutter, save for a few neat piles of paperwork.

Sounds like someone completely lacking personality? Well, you would be wrong because, according to Dawson, personal relationships are a priority to the "super-organised". "This personality wants to feel needed and is charming and helpful when relied upon. But the nononsense neatness also masks a small chip on its owner's shoulder due to perceived lack of apprecia-

The "show desktop" personality, on the other hand, has obliterated any signs of personality. Also ultraneat, this desk differs from "superorganised" by its size - if only because its owner is likely to be a departmental head or high-flying PA who is either emulating her boss's she believes the boss's desk ought to resemble. Don't be too surprised if you see this person straightening

up pens on *you*r desk. Bare space is essential to this personality largely because space spells affluence. Think of the acres of space on the desks of Tony Blair or Bill Clinton when they are photographed seated behind them. Dawson explains: "Although friendly within their own social group, once behind the 'show desk' they adopt a professional mask and forced bonhomie where necessary. This personality is astute and good at assessing strengths and weaknesses so can never be caught

off guard." Then there are the two narcissistic personalities. Most offices have at least one "trophy" desktop personality who insists on displaying certificates of accomplishment,



Portrait of the person as a desk space. The area where you work is more of a signature than you realise

whether it be on the rugby pitch or turned into potpourri at a later monotony and is a good, flexible carefully in other areas, a favourite the latest Windows course. The date. Mini larders appear by PCs cross-thinker.

More intere being freely available from the ofrounds the workstation of the "crefice kitchen. "These personalities ative chaos" desktop personality are always on the go," explains Dawson. "They need constant enbooks, for instance, or drawings and photos revealing an agile and creative mind. Dawson says: "Though occasionally distracted, this pertertainment, and, although friendly and talkative, are not always sonality is a great lateral thinker and Finally, there are the chaotic a good source of ideas. Like the 'organised chaos' desk owner, this types. The "organised chaos" desktop personality would love to be tidy type needs to have things at hand, but panics if everything isn't to but only knows vaguely where hand. "He or she uses a filing syseverything is, and work is often mistem consisting of many different placed. Modern technology does piles of paper, overflowing on to the not feature strongly on the creative

floor and under the desk," says Dawson. "Crucial deadlines are But what about the recent wideremembered by a sophisticated, spread introduction of clean desk policies? Some companies do not This individual is a workabolic, even allow employees to keep personal items in too drawers, so how but the chaos leads to stress and worry, meaning coffee and fags are on earth can they reveal anything often needed as constant stimulants. about their owners? Judi James, a Despite the hysteria, however, this well known business trainer claims dly mascots and flowers that get person likes a good chat to break the that this just means bosses look more

being under your desk where you put front of someone in a smart business suit and checking out their shoes.

They often say a lot more than the rest of the image put together - in terms of whether they are new, polished or colour co-ordinated." But the most obvious personality givesway in the millennium office, claims James, will be the screen saver. "Flying Through Space is a

sure sign of a dull personality while the changing shapes which resemble complex building scaffolding can show high intellect. Then there are the ego-maniacs who have their names scrolled across the screen in various sizes and, of course, the restless and insecure workers who change theirs every five minutes." Even the most

orderly employers, claims James,

will never obliterate clues to per-

sonality altogether. "It's just not in

How to put the perk back into your work

Pep me up before my get-up-and-go goes, says Debbie Barham

THERE IS, unfortunately, no medical equivalent of Viagra for giving limp office staff an instant pick-me-up. And at times - particularly now, with summer waning and the days drawing in - even the most ardent of workaholics needs a bit of extra mot-

ivation to get up in the morning. When your waste-paper bin basketball skills are on a par with Magic Johnson, your Blu-Tack sup-ply has metamorphosed into an intricate scale replica of the Eiffel Tower and you can immediately recognise individual pigeons on your window ledge simply by their distinctive tail feathers, you can confidently assume that you are in immediate need of some extra

How you tackle the situation varies from job to job. Here are a few strategies that you could employ to put some perk back in your work.

Ginkgo Biloba

"The life force of the Amazon" - so if your job involves a lot of hunting things, battling through dense creepers, or shooting at people with poisoned darts this could be the perfect choice (and you are probably in the customer relations field). Ginkgo comes in various forms; capsules, chewing-gum (handy if you run out of Blu-Tack) and strange little phials with names like "Energy Bomb" expensive at £1.99 each.

If your colleagues have been rubbing you up the wrong way, a good pum-melling can often relieve the tension. These days, pressing the flesh is not just restricted to high-flying execs - many bosses, wary of RSI-related tribunals, now offer a weekly massage as a perk of the job. This should, however, be done in some privacy by a professional masseur. If the hands squeezing your bod belong to anyone else, motivate yourself to bring a harassment suit

Power napping

What is new about offices providing employees with a place to grab 40 these days it's not called "your desk". If a futon suddenly appears in the office, this could mean that your boss is embracing the concept of "power napping". And if we are coming into line with other European business practices, why not take a siesta as well?

Any smoker in a non-smoking office won't rate the idea of "going outside for some fresh air" as being at all motivational. But a brisk stroll round the block can perk you up (make it obvious, though, that you are not just bunking off and going home early) even just opening a window makes a difference. Genuinely fresh air. though, is a rare commodity in the average city office. Real purists fork out for a canister of pure oxygen, although the price is likely to leave you gasping. Fortunately, Britain will

soon have its first American-style "oxygen bars", where - unlike president Clinton - you can inhale to your heart's content.

Pills such as ProPlus are basically just another way to obtain a quick caffeine fix, without all that tedious business of walking over to the coffee machine, exchanging pleas-antries/insults/gossip with your colleagues, wondering why the machine has given you oxtail soup when you pressed "cappuccino", and so on. But watch out - if you overdo the caffeine pills, your getup-and-go will turn into get-uptightand-go-completely-loopy.

Remember that office nerd who used to turn up with his little plastic lunch box of raw carrots and carton of V8? He's about to become the height of health-conscious hipness. Juice bars are usurping gourmet coffee joints as the place for go-getters to go when they need a buzz. Try a Mega Detox (beetroot, carrot, celery and apple, with a spirulina or blue-green algae supplement for that extra kick) - or a Stress Buster Combo (carrot, spinach, lemon with added wheatgerm or Vitamin C). If you are not lucky enough to have a local juice joint yet, then maybe you could replace the office kettle with an electric juicer?

Even Peter Mandelson has recently discovered the joys of yoga (though the lotus position is unlikely to challenge him: he is already supple enough to bend over backwards and disappear up his own posterior). Learn a few simple breathing exercises and you can practise them even at your desk. More advanced techniques, such as yogic flying, are best saved for after work (requesting permission to bounce around on a mattress in a variety of difficult physical positions may give your boss the wrong idea about you). The drawback? In busier offices, attaining any degree of mental tranquillity could be a tough one.

Staring at little flashing lights on a screen may not sound like the perfect way to revitalise you after a long stint at the computer - gadgets such as the "Mind Lab" might work for some people, but are best avoided if you're epileptic or technophobic, or do not want to sit at your desk wearing Stor Trek goggles (this will probably just invigorate your colleagues to laugh at you). Similarly - "motivational" cassettes are invariably voiced by earnest American men with too many Christian names (eg Doctor Ernest Ernest Ernest Richard Keene the Third, Jnr) and tend to be more demoralising than revitalising. My advice? Swap the tape for Agadoo and boogle round the office for five min-

utes. If your boss asks, just pretend

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The boss's 'exes' file

ONE OF the things you do if you're a PA is deal with the mail. So naturally, when the PA's away, the boss expects the temp to know what to do with every letter that comes in. And what you do do is pick the brains of the people working around you about memos, invoices, statements, magazines, slips of pink paper with holes punched in them. Which means that,

sometimes, you make a blooper. Ellen Armitage is one of those bosses who takes three-hour lunches while her underlings slog it it out over a sandwich at their desks; one of those bosses who says she has a meeting on the dot of 4.45 while the rest of the department stays until eight each night; one of those bosses who always but always, manages to blame cock-ups on someone else. She pockets corporate freebies - tickets, trips, bottles of booze, pens with advertisements on – before they reach the rest of the department. She was once heard on the telephone telling a crony how proud she was of how she kept her slaves in line.

There are 17 people

working beneath her,

cramped into a room 20ft by

15 because she refuses to



THE TEMP

confront management about health and safety. "I lived with it," she says. 'Now you can, too." So there I am, paper

knife in hand, rubber thimble on my right thumb to protect against paper cuts and those ragged slashes you get from careless contact with staples, when I open one of those orange envelopes with the boxes on the front for internal recycling, and out falls a filled-in expenses form with her name at the top and a fistful of receipts tacked on with a paperclip.

I look at it for a bit, wonder what I'm supposed to do with it. Then I take it over to Sue, who tends to be quite helpful. "Any idea what I'm supposed to do with this?"

Sue takes it, glances then peers. "My God," she says. "Carey," says Sue, "come here a minute."

Carey takes it and says: "Oh My Gaaaad." I'm still standing there going "What?" as the entire department rushes over going "I don't believe it" and "Christ on a bike".

"Where did you get

on taken in some lux- along with sachets of su

discreet."

multiple-sticky-note method."

urious holiday resort or ashtray

from the Middle East often sneak

their way in, too. "On the surface

this desk appears slightly haphaz-

ard," explains Dawson, "but each

trophy will be strategically and de-

liberately placed for maximum ef-

ers and motivators because they

think big, but they need to be ap-

preciated or they are prone to dis-

n't care where her postcards and

ashtrays are from in fact, it seems

she doesn't care where any of her

personal belongings come from,

provided they cocoon her entire

workstation. Here you'll find more

make-up than a Boots cosmetic

counter, not to mention all the cud-

The "personality extension" desktop personality, however, does-

content, tantrums and sulking."

"These people are natural lead-

this?" asks Carey. "It just came down in the internal post," I say. "Why? What's wrong? What have I done?" And she grabs me, kisses me and tells me I'm a genius, that's what. "The MD's PA must have sent this back to her by accident rather than forwarding it to accounts," she says. "We've been trying to get a look at her 'exes' for months, but she always takes them

upstairs by hand." "Right," says Jamie, sitting down. "Let's see. Sue, she didn't take you out to lunch on the 18th, did she?" "Lunch?" says Sue. "She's never even offered me a sandwich." "Well, she soent £50 on you, apparently. And £40 on taking me to hunch on the 13th. And you" - he nods at

Mike - "accompanied her

on a fact-finding mission to

Bournemouth last Sunday." "Ogodogod," says Sue, squirming in her chair. Mike stabs a receipt for £170 from a Turkish restaurant. "Look!" he crows. "Her daughter's

birthday party! What's that?" Carey leafs through the sheet. "Entertaining clients." Mīke cackies. "Wonder what the cheese will say when he finds out the clients are 12 years old?" "Samples!" cries Jamie. "Samples from Chanel!" "Samples?" says Maria. "I know what that sample is. She's been wearing it on her arse for the last three weeks."

Jamie bashes me on the back with the violence of one who is well pleased. "You're a blimming star!" he cries. "We're going to get you so drunk tonight you won't believe!" They all fall quiet as the enormity of their discovery sinks in, then start jumping around and hugging each other. Then Sharon shouts a

warning from by the door, Sue shoves the tatal document in her bottom drawer, and they all scurry back to their desks. Ellen Armitage enters the room. smoothing her Chanel skirt over her hips. Everyone bends over their work. rattling furiously at keyboards. No-one meets anyone's eye. Ellen eyes them like a lizard; she knows something's up. "You're all very quiet," she says, "What's up? Someone died or something?"

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NEWSPAPER for that app

I H.

Cultural awareness can mean the difference between success and failure. By Kate Hilpern

When it is polite to burp

signals a V-sign to you across the conference table, you could be forgiven body language, attitude and preferfor being upset. But to her, it merely indicates the need for a cigarette. of the ways you can screw up and When your boss's Saudi Arabian client refuses the company gift that took you an entire lunch time to choose, you could be forgiven for feeling furious. But to him, giving gifts with your left hand is an insult. And when the new client from Bahrain lets out an almighty burp after eat- an Italian, it is seen as polite; but if ing the last Danish pastry, you could you do the same to a Korean, you will be forgiven for finally having enough be seen as mega-pushy, as smiles are do as the British do, and always to of all this rudeness and taking the rest of the day off. But to him, it is a

al blunders. "Too many office staff so much the better." assume that, just because they can't speak their language, there's no of Luton has shown that a vast num- people are so fond of. When you're hope of creating any kind of im- ber of small- and medium-size UK not used to it, it probably seems very

Cultural Gaffes pocketbook. But even cause a deal to be lost."

Indeed, Judi James, author of potential clients. Bodytalk (19.95, the Industrial Society) says that only 7 per cent of the and courtesies must be spot on - if impact of any message is verbal, 38 per cent is tone of voice, and 55 per cent is non-verbal. So if you smile at reserved for personal relationships.

Britain has one of the worst repgn of appreciation.

No wonder, then, that it is finally other nationalities. Anthony Sell, being recognised that to get on in the chief executive of the British Tourist British office environment – where companies are increasingly in pur-quired a reputation as a country that dearing, 'Just bear with me a mosuit of European and global trade - does things its way, and if the overit is essential to be aware of cultur- seas visitor understands and adapts,

WHEN YOUR boss's French client plains Angelena Boden, author of The they are simply not making the ef-liability. "Crack a joke to a German fort. Nearly half of the responding companies that proved less profitable ences in food and drink are just a few at exporting, used agents only when doing business abroad - putting a barrier between themselves and

> For the PA or secretary, greetings only because you are often the first company representative a foreigner sees. Boden stresses: "The two golden rules are never to make judgements just because someone doesn't take the lead from the other person." According to John Mole, author of

Mind Your Manners: Managing Business Cultures in Europe, the telephone is one of the biggest danment'. It will be totally incomprehensible. Alternatively, imagine them being spoken to in the crisp, forbid-New research from the University ding telephone manner British

who is about to enter a meeting and it won't be well received. That's not because Germans don't have a sense of humour, it's just that humour has me realise how important it can be." no place in business. Finns, on the other hand, seem to love a good joke to break the ice." Punctuality is important, too. "It is classic in Britain that a 9am appointment starts at 9.15am, but if you're Dutch or Scandinavian, not starting promptly would be extremely impolite."

Even if there is no language barrier, fourt pas can be made even when dealing with North Americans, explains Boden, "Canadians can become very prickly if you assume they are from the United States, and if you give an American a business lunch in which the portions and choice are small and there is no iced water on the tables, you'll just be fulfilling their worst stereotypes about Britain."

Where languages do differ, experts agree that it is worth making a slight effort. Richard Branson repression with a Chinese client," ex- companies are suffering because rude." Humour, he says, is another cently told the Electronic Telegraph:

"When I was in Japan setting up Virgin's businesses, I managed to learn a few words of Japanese. Just to see the smiles on people's faces made

The University of Luton recently won backing from the European social fund for a project worth £5.6m to implement remedial action. Earnon Keenan, project manager of Languages and Culture for Business (LCB), explains: "Our training targets one individual, such as a PA or secretary, who can go back to their company and reach everyone else. Some companies even have to look at their names. Vauxhall Nova realised that marketing in Spain would be a bit of a problem since 'no va' means 'does not go' in Spanish."

Companies who lag behind cuiturally can even go under. The LCB project director, Frank Burdett, cites one company where receivers were called in. In a filing cabinet, they discovered an order from Germany so big that it could have saved the business. Nobody had been able to understand it.

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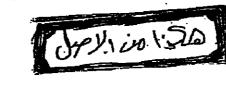
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NEW FILMS

HANDS (AKA PALMS) (PG) Director: Artur Aristakisyan

The director of this harrowing semi-documentary has been compared to Pasolini and Tarkovsky, the press notes assure us, but though this is an imaginatively realised runnination on the workings of the modern world, the picture is deadening in a way that those directors' best work never was. The film is simple and precise in its methods; as images of downtrodden and forgotten citizens - THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO (15) amputees, beggars, the very young, the elderly -are played out before us in a moving collage, a man narrates a message to his unborn child, who may be being aborted even as he speaks. West End: Renoir

HE GOT GAME (18) Director: Spike Lee

Starring: Denzel Washington, Milla Jovovich The plot of Spike Lee's muddled tale is pure poppycock: Jake Shuttleworth (Denzel Washington) is doing time for the murder of his wife, but is offered a deal, out of the blue, which could cut short his sentence. It has come to the attention of the Governor that Jake's son, Jesus (Ray Allen), is the country's hottest new basketball star, with all the majors competing to sign him up. If Jake can convince Jesus to sign with the Governor's alma mater, then he can look forward to early release. Jake agrees, and is dispatched into the outside world on this errand. However, there is one seemingly insurmountable obstacle in Jake's Director: Peter Medak path - his son has vowed never to forgive him for

his mother's murder. If the impression this gives is of a politically correct soap opera, then that's close to how He Got Game comes across. Few directors have made such a swift impact on cinema as Lee - but healthy abundance of sex and violence make this equally, few have gone on to have such a variable career. Lee coaxes an impressive performance from Washington, but it is his own stylistic excesses which are the film's undoing.

West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

global disaster movie in which a meteor is on a

will end up pleasing no one. Odeon Comden Tourn,

Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon

Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Chelsea. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero,

Ralph Fiennes dons the bowler hat and wields the

cane as Steed, Uma Thurman pours herself into

a catsuit as Emma Peel, while Sean Connery

sashays around in a kilt as August De Winter, who

Feature-length exploits for the big, jolly dinosaur

whose blend of nursery rhymes, Day-gio colours

and moral lessons make him ideal for the more

undernanding pre-school viewer, an endurance test

for anyone else. Rio Cinema, UCI

Sumptuous swashbucklers are fast becoming

French cinema's stock-in-trade. This effort doesn't

break much new ground, but is acted and shot with

such braggadocio that its lack of originality is

never a problem. ABC Swiss Centre, Curzon

Rites-of-passage drama set in Louisiana locations

which have been devalued by too many Southern Comfort ads. Despite some intuitive observations

this feels for the most part like reheated Fried

Green Tomatoes. Odeon Mezzanine, Plaza,

A young Parisian journeys through rural

Romania on a quest for the gypsy singer whose

music he discovered through his father. There is

a warmth and humour to the storytelling which

pushes this film way beyond being mere

The team which cooked up such blockbusters as

Storgate and Independence Day is generally very

adept at constructing enjoyable adventures with

a B-movie taste for fun. Unfortunately, on this

occasion their light touch has deserted them.

Robert Redford's over-long and deeply indulgent

film of Nicholas Evans's novel is a textbook

lesson in the narcissistic allure of cinema.

Redford plays a Montana farmer who

specialises in equine psychology. He agrees to

help New York magazine editor Kristin Scott

Thomas whose daughter has been traumatised

in a riding accident ABC Tottenham Court

Road, Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema,

Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Vir-

gin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town,

Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square,

Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy

Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys,

LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING

Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Borrels follows the

lead of Quentin Tarantino but the film's defining

characteristic is its resiliant morality. The picture

is peopled by thugs, both amateur and

professional. Young Eddy, who comes unstuck in

a high-stakes card-game, falls into the former, but

Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes 2500,000, is a

dangerous old-school pro. ABC Tottenham Court

Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith

Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington,

Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza,

Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI

Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero,

sentimental travelogue. Renoir

Empire Leicester Square

Virgin Fulham Road

Warner Village West End

BARRELS (18)

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG)

Mayfair

EVE'S BAYOU (15)

GADJO DILO (15)

Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE (U)

ARMAGEDDON (12)

Warner Village West End

THE AVENGERS (12)

THE LAND GIRLS (12) Director: David Leland

Starring: Catherine McCormack. Rachel Weisz, Anna Friel, Steven Mackintosh See The Independent Recommends, right West End: Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

Director: Whit Stillman

Starring: Chloe Sevigny, Kate Beckinsale. Chris Eigeman

In the fictional club at the centre of Whit Stillman's dry and slightly sad comedy, everything sparkles - under the light from the glitterball, the dancers are united in their absent-minded beauty, and pockets of glitter fall from the ceiling even as the chub is being busted by cops. But you couldn't accuse the picture of being nostalgic - as with Stillman's previous films (Metropolitan and Barcelona), actions and emotions unfold with a knowing wink toward the future.

West End- ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odean Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

SPECIES II (18)

passable B-movie fun.

GENERAL RELEASE

This deeply stupid film purports to be a tender Yet another cult 1960s television series to get an

love story, a meaty action adventure and a expensive makeover but the film-makers have re-

collision course with Earth. Its jumble of styles stars as a frosty scientist who journeys with

Starring: Michael Madsen, Natasha Henstridge.

George Dzundza Ludicrous science-fiction horror about a strand of deadly alien DNA carried back to earth in the bodies of astronauts. Comball dialogue and a

West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Trocadero

mained faithful to the original tone. William Hurt

his family into space to save the Earth from

The first full-length product of Warners' new

animation division, this Arthurian adventure

looks - and courtesy of the inevitable Celine Dion.

sounds - even cheesier than the average Disney

effort. But beneath the surface there's an edge

Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

Seventies suburban morality tale in which

Christian Bale plays a man festering somewhere

in the commuter belt when his oldest friend thinks

that he ought to be out having fun. There are some

endearing moments but, on the whole, director

Philip Saville shows a dispiriting lack of ambition.

This largely disappointing addition to Jackie

Chan's oeuvre has its moments - a fight scene on

a construction site is a particular delight. But the

combination of comedy and adventure doesn't gel;

it may be the first Chan film that wouldn't even

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Romantic comedy in which Paul Rudd

confounds his flatmate Jennifer Aniston's

dreams of wedding vows and joint burial plots

Dismal period drama in which feminist writer

Madeleine Stowe and priest Kenneth Branagh

become entangled after she discovers ber fat-cat

husband (William Hurt) is unable to father a child.

The Real Howard Spitz, a sunny comedy about

a children's writer (Kelsey Grammer, aka

Frasier) who hates children, is director Vadim

Jean's most likeable work. Originality may be thin

on the ground but the direction is breezy and

Grammer has a lovely, grouchy demeanour.

David Mamet's intricate little thriller is a playful

exercise in twisting a plot until it locks; there is a

scientific detachment about the way he explores

every permutation of his Kafkaesque scenario.

though the movie is also slyly funny. Barbican

Screen, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town,

Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cin-

Vargin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

See The Independent Recommends, above.

ABC Baker Street, ABC Shaftesbury Avenue.

Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin.

Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Harmarket. Odeon

Kensington, Odeon Morble Arch, Odeon Swiss

Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Pleasing thriller starring Bill Pullman as Daryl

Zero, the world's greatest private investigator a

drop-out who subsists on tuna fish, Tab and

amphetamines, pulling on reserves of wit and

ingenuity when the time comes to crack a new

case. Ultimately, the film feels a little shallow and

self-conscious, but it puts a smile on your face for

most of its duration. Warner Village West End

Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

emo. Screen on the Green, Virgin Fulham Road.

look good if you were plastered.

West End: Odeon Mezzanine

Salacious tosh. ABC Ponton Street

THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG)

THE SPANISH PRISONER (PG)

THE PROPOSITION (12)

environmental destruction.

THE MAGIC SWORD:

QUEST FOR CAMELOT (U)

Odeon West End

METROLAND (18)

Virgin Trocadero

Virgin Trocadero

by being gay.

TICI Whiteleus

THE X FILES (15)

ZERO EFFECT (15)

MR NICE GUY (15)

Ryan Gilbey

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey FANS OF The X Files (left) television series have been heard to complain that the show's itinerant approach to conspiracy theories had taken some of the lustre out of the subject. In which case, the film version isn't likely to offer any

compensation. But it looks splendid on the

big screen, David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson reprise their roles as FBI agents Mulder and Scully, and the screenplay gives them a meaty commitmen to thew on.

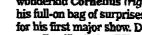
David Leland's gentle comedy The Land Girls leads you into familiar territory, but manages to infuse the experience with warmth and wit. Rachel Weisz, Anna Friel and Catherine McCormack are the "land girls" called upon in WWII to pick up the discarded ploughs and take the place of the farmers who have departed for war. Nothing surprising here - sexual awakening, broad laughs, a smattering of tragedy but very nicely done. On general release

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

AFTER A much-appreciated run in July, tonight sees the return of Ubu Kunst, Luis Alberto Soto's irreverent revamp of Alfred Jarry's influential schoolboy satire on tyrants. Soto, who takes the role of the bum-sore, foul-mouthed

conqueror, is assisted by two other performers, a chrysanthemum, a bowl of tomatoes and some kitchen utensils. Simple, yet highly effective. Young Vic, The Cut, London SE1

(0171-928 6363) 7.45pm Having been praised to the rafters in Edinburgh, the National Theatre of Brent's cross-wired dramatisation of the Charles and Di (right) story. Love upon the Throne, comes to London. Very funny, but not disrespectfully so. Bush Theatre, London W12 (0181-743 3388) 8pm



Pop Tim Perry

JAPANESE SAMPLING, riffing wonderkid Cornelius (right) brings his full-on bag of surprises to the UK for his first major show. Described as sounding like Brian Wilson if he had access to curent technology back in the days of his creative peak Cornelius blends sublime pop moments with some real "out-there"

stuff. His Fantasma album remains one of this year's highlights and tonight promises all sorts of sonic bleeps and offbeat visuals.

LA2, London W1 (0171-434 0403) 8pm Another band who are massive in their own country are Sweden's darkedged pop quintet Kent. Outselling the likes of the Cardigans and the Wannadies back home, with all three of their albums hitting the top spot, they'll be playing a much smaller venue than they're used to. This gig kicks off a mini-residency which sees them playing the cramped Monarch every Wednesday this month.

Monarch, London NW1 (0171-916 1049) 8pm

Poetry Judith Palmer

ONE FISH, two fish, red fish, blue fish... London Zoo's sleek young poetin-residence. Tobias Hill, celebrates his new post tonight by opening up the Aquarium for an evening of Poetry among the Piranhas. A ticklish occasion for the little finned fellows since Hill's only fish poems to date have been about sushi ("inch-cuts of raw sarding / converted into shoals of sweat"). Hill will however be reading

lots of new poems about other beasts from his forthcoming collection, Zoo. Joining him among the leopard eels and lion-fish is the magnificently dry-witted Carol Ann Duffy (right). Entrance includes free wine, a chance to explore the aquarium, and interval music from a harpist - presumably to humour the angelfish

The Aquarium, London Zoo, Prince Albert Gate, Outer Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1. 7.30pm, tickets £8 in advance only from the Poetry Society (0171-420 9895)



EDMONTON

(0181-315 4229) ♦ Camden

2.45pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm

ODEON HAYMARKET

ODEON KENSINGTON

6.35pm, 9.30pm

4.05 pm.

6pm, 8,55pm

ODEON MEZZANINE

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

6.25pm.

The X-Files 12.20pm, 3pm,

(0181-315 4215) & Leicester Square Eve's Bayou 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The

DDEON SWISS COTTAGE

ODEON WEST END

6.15pm, 9pm

3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two

(0171-837 8402) ⊕ Russell Square Gadjo Dilo 2.10pm. 4.20pm. 6.30pm. 9pm Hands (aka Palms) 3pm.

(0171-737 2121/733 2229)

12.50pm, 3,35pm, 6,20pm, 9pm

5.45pm, 8.25pm

Doors 2.30pm

RITZY CINEMA

T**wo S**m: 4.35pm,

6.30pm, 8.50pm

8,55pm

12.50pm, 4.15pm, 7.50pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH

(0181-315 4215) & Leicester Square The Horse Whisperer

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-935 9772) ⊕ Baker Street Psycho 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 2.20pm,

ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 0631) & Piccadilly Circus The Big Lebowski 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Jackie Brown 1.30pm, 4.40pm, 7.45pm Live Flesh 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm The Proposition 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm The Proposition
3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) & Piccadilly Circus Lolita 2.05pm, 5.05pm, 8pm Love And Death On Long 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

plans to take over the world by controlling the of genuine weirdness that will keep parents weather. Virgin Trocadero, Warner entertained, if it doesn't frighten the children out ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE Village West End (0171-836 6279) & Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Hana-Bi 1.15pm, 3.45pm The X-Files 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

> ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439 4470) & Lekester 3.40pm, 6.10pm.
> The Daytrippers
> Thom, 5.10pm, vare/Piccadilly Circus Le Bossu 8.40pm The Daytrippers 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm La Grande Illusion 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm Kurt & Courtney 8.30pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0171-636 6148) + Tottenham ourt Road The Horse Whisperer

Court Road The norse wissperer 1.05pm, 4.45pm, 8.20pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.25pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm BARBICAN SCREEN

0171-382 7000) O Moorgate/Barbican The Horse Whisperer 5,30pm, 8,30pm The Spanish Prisoner 6,15pm, 8,40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 4.25pm, 7.50pm CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-498 2242) & Clapham Common The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.30pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The X-Files 4.15pm. 3.45pm, 9.15pm

CURZON MAYFAIR 5.30pm, 8.15pm ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

CORONÉT (0171-703 4968) ↔ Elephant & Castle Dr Dolittle 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm Species II 4.15pm,

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0171-437 1234) O Leicester Square Godzilla 3pm, 5.50pm. 8.40pm Specles II 1pm, 3.20pm. 6pm, 8.20pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) O Notting Hill Gate The Spanish Prisone 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm HANIMERSMITH VIRGIN

(0870-9070718) & Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith The Horse (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland The Last Days Of Disco 6.15pm, 8.50pm Sliding Whisperer 1,20pm, 4,50pm. 8.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12,40pm. 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Species II 12.30pm, 3.10pm. 5.50pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Horse Whisperer 1.45pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 9.05pm Lock, Stock &

(0171-437 0757) & Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square Latin American Film Festival phone

METRO

CURZON MINEMA 1723) (0171-369 bridge Hana-Pi

NOTTING HILL CORONET

1.15pm, 4.35pm, 8pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-486 0036) & Baker Street The Horse Whisperer 3.05pm. The Horse Whisperer 3.05pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & two Smoking Barrels 3.25pm, (0171-727 6705) & Notting Hill Gate The Horse Whisperer 6.25pm, 8.45pm

CREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) O Angel-Highbury & Islington The Spanish Prisoner 3.45pm, 6.20pm, (0181-315 4229) & Camden Town Armageddon 8.15pm The Daytrippers 12.20pm The Horse Whisperer 12.40pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm The Last Days Of Disco 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12,15pm, 2.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Spanish Prisoner 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.45pm The X-Files 2.45pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park The Land Girts 3.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WHITELEYS (0171-792 3332) © Bayswater Armageddon 2.10pm, 5.30pm, 8.50pm Dr Dollittle 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm He Got Game 3.05pm, 6.05pm, 9.10pm The Horse Whisperer 1.45pm, 5.15pm, 8.40pm The Land Girls 6.25pm, 9pm The Land Girls 6.25pm, 9pm The Last Days Of Disco 2.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The Real Howard Spitz 12.45pm Species II 4.50pm, 7.25pm, 9.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm (0181-315 4214) O High Street Kensington Armageddon 5.10pm, 8.35pm Dr Dolittle 12.50pm, 3pm He Got Game 12.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm The Horse Whisperer

1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels **VIRGIN CHELSEA** (0870-9070710) 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The X-Files 12.45pm, 3.40pm, Armageddon 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm The Last Days Of Disco 12.30pm, 3pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Species II 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-9070711) ↔ Kensington Armag (0181-315 4216) ← Marble Arch Armageddon 2.05pm, 5.25pm, 8.45pm The Horse Whisperer Kensington Armageddon 1.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Big Lebowski 2pm, 6pm, 8.45pm 3.43pm file Horse Winspeck 1.15pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm Lock, Stock & Tiwo Smoking Barrels 12.15pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Species II 1.45pm, The Horse Whisperer 1.40pm, 5pm, 8.30pm The Land Girls 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

The X-Files 1.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm GIN HAYMARKET (0870-9070712) — Piccadilly Circus The Land Girls 1.05pm. 3.20pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm The Last Days Of Disco 1pm. 3.30pm, 6pm. 8.30pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.15pm. 2.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm.

Apm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Object Of My Affection 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Sbx Days, Seven Nights 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Titank; 12.05pm, 3.45pm, 7.25pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Spanish Prisoner , 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-9070716) ⊕ Piccadilly Circus Armageddon 1.50pm. 5pm, 8,20pm The Avengers 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.15pm Dr Dolltetle 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm Gang Related (0181-315 4220) Θ Swiss Cottage Armageddon 2pm, 5pm, 8pm He Got Game 12,15pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm Gang Related 6.20pm, 8.50pm He Got Game 6.20pm, 6.30pm He Got Game 1.40pm, 5pm, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 9pm Mecroland 9.10pm Species II 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

7.43pm 10cx, Stock or Invo Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm, 3.55pm 6.20pm, 8.45pm The X-Files 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.35pm 5.50pm, 8.40pm **WARNER VILLAGE WEST END** (0181-315 4221) & Leicester Square Lost in Space 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The (0171-437 4347) & Leicester (0171-437 4347) & Leicester Square Armageddon 11am, 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm The Arengers 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.20pm City Of Angels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 9.20pm Dr Dollttle 11.40am, 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.30pm The Land Girls 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Last Days Of Disco, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.40pm Lock, Stock & Two 12.45pm, 3.30pm, PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) & East Finchley .40pm Lock, Stock & Two PLAZA
(0171-437 1234) & Piccatilly
Circus Armageddon 1.30pm,
4.45pm, 8pm Eve's Bayou
12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm,
8.35pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 12.30pm, 3pm,
6pm, 8.40pm Sikling Doors 1pm,
3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm 9.40pm Lock, Stock & Wo Smoking Barrels 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 5.40pm, 9.10pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Titanic 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 6.50pm Zero Effect 1.35pm, 4.15pm, 9.30pm.

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park Royal Armageddon 2.20pm, 5.40pm Armagendon 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.50pm The Avengers 5.05pm Dr Dolktie 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm Eve's Bayou 7.30pm Gang Related 10pm Godzilla 1.30pm, 4.35pm He Got Godzilla 1,30pm, 4,35pm He Got Game 2.10pm, 10.10pm The Horse Whisperer 1,40pm, 5,15pm, 8.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1,50pm, 4,25pm, 7pm, 9,40pm Lost in Space 12,40pm, 3,55pm, 6,40pm, 9,25pm Species II 1.10pm, 3,20pm, 5,30pm, 7,40pm, 9,50pm, 5,30pm, 7,40pm, 9,50pm 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.50pm The X-Files 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm

o Smoking Barrels 2.20pm. 5pm. 7.05pm. 9.25pm nette 12.30pm The Spanish soner 1.40pm. 4.05pm. (0181-507 8444) Barking Armageddon 8pm Dr
 Dollttle 12.55pm, 2.40pm, 4.25pm,
 6.10pm Godzilla 12.15pm, 3pm,
 6.00m The Marco Williams 5.40pm The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4.20pm, 7.40pm Lock, Stock

3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Lost In Space 8.20pm Species II 12.20pm, 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm The X-Files 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 8.60pm, 8.60pm

BARNET
ODEON (0181-315 4210) © High
Barnet Armageddon 1.45pm,
4.50pm, 8pm Barney's Great
Adventure 12.05pm Dr Dolittle
12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm
The Horse Whisperer 12.35pm,
4.15pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.40pm,
6.05pm, 8.40pm Lost in Space
8.15pm The X-Files 12.20pm,
3pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Becken-

ABC 10870 9020412) Bic Becken-ham Junction Armageddon phone for times Dr Dolittle phone for times The Horse Whisperer 2.20pm, 7.45pm Species II 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm The X-Files phone for times BEXLEYHEATH

CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) 11.45am, 2.50pm, 5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9.10pm Barney's Great Adventure 11.15am, 1pm Dr Dolittle 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 8pm, 10pm Godzilla 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm The Horse Whisperer 11.30am, 2.45pm. 6pm, 9pm The Little Mermald 11am Lock, Stock & Two noking Barrels 2.45pm, 5.15pm, 7.35pm, 10pm Lost in Space 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 10.50am Species II 12.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm The X-Files 11.30am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.45pm

ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Armageddon 8.10pm Dr Dolittle Armagedoon 8.10pm br Dollttle
12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm
The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm,
4.15pm, 7.45pm The Little
Mermaid 12.15pm Lock, Stock &
Two Smoking Barrets 1.05pm,
3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm
The X-Files 2.40pm, 5.45pm,
8.35pm 8.35pm

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Species 6.30pm, 8.45pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East The Horse Whisperer 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.45pm

FAIRFIELD HALLS (018)-688 9291) BR: East Girls' Night Out 7.30pm

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon The Avengers 4.50pm Dil Se 8.30pm Dr Dolicte 4.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 6.30pm, 8.35pm Species II 8.30pm 6. I Opm. X-Files 4.50pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Armageddon 2.05pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm Dr Dolittle 12.45pm. 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Godzilla 12.30pm, 3.30pm The Horse Whisperer 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Lost In Space 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Species II 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The X-Files 1.20pm, 4.10pm. 7pm, 9.50pm

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway Armageddon 2.30pm, 5.30pm. 8.30pm, 9.40pm Dr Dolletie 11am, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 8.50pm Eve's Bayot 2pm, 7pm Gang Related 4.30pm, 9.30pm Godzilla 1.15pm, 4pm The Horse Whisperer 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.45am. 2pm. 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Lost in Space 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.40pm Species II 2.45pm, 5pm, 7pm. 9.10pm The X-Files 1.30pm. 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway The Horse Whisnerer 1.10pm 4.40pm, 8.10pm Species # 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The X-Files 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm EDMONTON
LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale
Armageddon 1 40pm, 2.40pm,
5pm, 6pm, 8.15pm, 9.20pm Dr
Dolittle 2pm, 3pm, 4.30pm,
5.15pm, 7pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm
Eve's Bayou 8 35pm Gang
Related 9.40pm Godzilla 3 30pm,
6.40pm He Soc Game 2 30pm. 6.40pm, He Gor Game 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm The Horse Whisperer 12 40pm, 4.20pm, 8pm Kareeb 10pm Lock, Stock & Two

Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Lost in Space 2.35pm, 5 25pm The Real Howard Spitz 3.40pm, 6.10pm Species II 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm The X-Files 1pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9pm, 10pm FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR. Feltham Armageddon 11.30am, 12.40pm, 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 7.10pm, 9pm, 10.10pm The Avengers 11.10am,

1.10pm, 7.10pm Barney's Great Adventure 10.45am Dil Se 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm Dr Dollttle 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm. 4pm. 5pm. 6pm. 7pm Godzilla 11.55am. 3pm. 6.05pm. 9.05pm The Horse Whisperer 11.30am, 2.45pm, 6.15pm, 9.30pm Kareeb 3.55pm The Little Mermald 12noon Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12noon, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.40pm Lost In Space 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.40pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 11am Maharaja 12noon, 3.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.45pm Mr Nice Guy 9.30pm Pyaer To Hona Hi Tha 3pm, 9.10pm Species II 12.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm, 10.15pm The X-Files 10.50am, 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 8pm, 9.30pm, 10.30pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) East Finchley/Finchley Central Armageddon 2.10pm. 5.20pm, 8.30pm Dr Dolittle 12.55pm, 3pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm Godzilla 1.10pm, 4pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Lost in Space 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.50pm Species ti 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The X-Files 1pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green The Horse Whisperer 12.55pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich The Horse Whisperer 5.35pm, 8.45pm The Last Days Of Disco 4.20pm. 6.50pm, 9.20pm The X-Files 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm

HAMPSTEAD Park Dr Dollttle 3.55pm, 5.50pm Hana-Bi 1.40pm, 3.55pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.35pm The X-Files 1.15pm, 8.15pm

HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harroy

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hill Armageddon 1.30pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm Dr Dolittle 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm Godzilia 1.20pm, 4.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 1ne Horse Whisperer 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Lost in Space 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.35pm, 8.30pm Species II 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm The X-Files 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm Zero Effect 9.30pm

HOLLOWAY ODEON (0181-315 4213) O Holloway Road/Archway Armageddon 1.30pm, 4.35pm, 7.40mm Barney's Great Adventure 11.45am Dr Dolittle 12.40pm, 2.55pm, 5pm, 7.05pm Eve's Bayou 12.10pm He Got Game 2.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 4.30pm, 7.55pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Lost in Space 12.10pm The Magic Sword: Ouest For Camelot 12.25pm The Real Howard Spitz 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Species II 12.15pm,35pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 2.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

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ODEON (0181-315 4223) - Gants Hill Armageddon 7.50pm Barney's Great Adventure 12.15pm Dr Dollttle 11.50am, 1.50pm, 3.50pm, Doittle 11.50am. 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 5.55pm The Horse Whisperer 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.40pmm, 8.30pm 5pecies II 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm The X-Files 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.40pm 8.30pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston The Horse Whisperer 2.10pm, 7.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (0181-315 4217) O Highgate Armageddon 8.05pm Dr Dollttle 1.15pm. 2.55pm. 4.35pm, 6.15pm The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Armageddon 6pm. 9.05pm Dr Dolittle 1.45pm, 3.30pm Godzilla 2.40pm He Got Game 3,20pm, 6,15pm, 9,10pm The Horse Whisperer 2,05pm, 5,25pm, 8,45pm Lock, Stock & Two 5.25pm, 8.45pm LDCs, Stock & Mo Smoking Barrels 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Species II 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm The X-Files 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm

ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Puriev Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 5.40pm, 8.30pm Species B 6.10pm, 8.35pm

PLITTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) & Putney Bridge. BR: Putney The Horse Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

RICHMOND DEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/O Richmond The Horse
Whisperer 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm,
9.30pm The X-Files 12.10pm,
3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR/O Richmond Armageddor 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm D Dolittle 2pm, 4.10pm, 7pm The Land Girls 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Little Mermaid 1pm Lost in Space 8.50pm The Spanish Prisoner 3pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford Dr Dolittle 4.30pm, 6.25pm Lock, Stock & Turo Smoking Barrels 2.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Species II 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The X-Files 1.50pm, 8.20pm 1.50pm, 8.20pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-729040) BR: Romford Armageddon 7.250-00 Sr. Nonton Armagesbon 1.45pm, 4.50pm, 8.05pm Barney's Great Adventure 12.10pm Dr Dollttle 12.25pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 8.45pm Godzilia 12.15pm, 3.05pm The Horse Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm The Little Mermaid 12.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Lost In Space 2.35pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.35pm Species R 1.45pm, 3.50pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12noon, 3pm, 5.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.15pm, 8.40pm

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup The Horse Whisperer 2.30pm, 7.40pm Species II 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Armageddon 8.30pm Dr Dolittle 2pm, 4pm, 6pm He Got Game 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm
The Horse Whisperer 1.10pm,
4.30pm, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 2.20pm, 4.30pm,
7pm, 9.20pm Species II 1pm,
3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The X-Files 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Armageddon 4.35pm, 7.45pm Dr Dolittle 1.45pm Eve's Bayou 8.30pm Lost In Space 1.30pm The Real Howard Spitz 4.15pm, 6.20pm Species II 2pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm

ODEON (0181-315 4219) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common Armageddon 8.50pm Barney's Great Adventure 11.45am Dr Dollttle 12.55pm, 2.55pm, 4.55pm, 6.55pm He Got Game 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 8.10pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.45am Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 8.10pm The X-Files 1.15pm, 4.0pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Dr Dolittle 1.30pm. 3.20pm He Got Game 2.15p 5.15pm, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 1.15pm, 4.35pm, 7.55pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The X-Files 6.15pm, 8.45pm

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/O Morden Armageddon 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 9pm Dr Dollittle
1.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm The
Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5pm.
8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 4pm, 8.45pm Species II 2.15pm, 4.45pm. 7pm The X-Files 3.30pm. 6.30pm, 9.15pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519)

Turnpike Lane Dr Dolittle
3.40pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two 8.35pm Species II 4.15pm, 6.30pm,

SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990 888990) ← Surrey Quays Armageddon 3pm, 6.15pm, 9.30pm Dr Dolittle 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 5.05pm, 8pm Godzīla 12.45pm, 4pm He Got Game 11.45am, 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 9pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 12.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 4pm, 6pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.15pm Lost in Space 1.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest Spanish Prisoner 7pm, 10pm Species II 2.05pm. 4.45pm. 7.15pm, 9.45pm The X-Files 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (01895-813139) + Uxbridge The Horse Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.10pm, 7.35pm The X-Files 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm X-Files (15)

WAITHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) ♥ Walthamstow Central Dr Dollttle 4pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1,10pm, 3,35pm, 5,55pm, 8,25pm Species II 2,05pm, 4,10pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm The X-Files 1.30pm, 8.05pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Dr Dollttie ohone for times Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

ODEON (0181-315 4222) BR/O Wimbledon/O South Wimbledon Armageddon Dr Dollttle 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Species II 1.40pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm The X-Files 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodford The Horse Whisperer 12.40pm, 4.05pm, 7.30pm Species II 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsena! The Horse Whisperer 4.25pm, 7.40pm Species II 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON
CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Western (15) 7.30pm

THE LUX Hoxton Square N1 (0171-684 0201) Eika Katappa (NC) 8.30pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274/cc 928 3232) Live Flesh (18) 2.30pm, 6.30pm Poll De Carotte: Julien Duvivier (NC) 6.15pm Putting The World Before You: The Charles Urban Story: Museum Special Event (NC) 7.30pm They Were Five: Julien Duvivier (NC) 8.30pm Babymother (15) 8.45pr

PEPSI IMAX The Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus W1 (0171-494 4153) Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3-Time - A New York Adventure (3-D) (U) 10.45am, 12.50pm, 2.55pm, 5.10pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm L5 -City in Space (U) 11.55am, 2pm, 6.20pm, 8.25pm, 10.30pm Everest (U) 4.05pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Good Will Hunting (15) Tpm Way Out West & The Music Box (U) 3.30pm Sling Blade (15) 6.15pm Gattaca (15) 9pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Criso Road

W6 (0181-237 1111/cc 420 0100) Kolya (12) 6.45pm Il Postino 8.50pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford (0181-568 1176) The Land Girls (12) 5pm. 9pm Dance Of The Wind (U) 7pm 7pm

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-626261) Fargo (18) Wed 2pm + Lost High-way 4pm Eve's Bayou (15) 6.30pm Le Bossu (15) 8.45pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) The Last Days Of Disco (15) 6pm La Grande Muston (U) 6.05pm, 8.25pm The Spanish Prisoner (PG) 8.35pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Midnight in The Garden Of Good And Evil (15) 2.15pm The Horse Whisperer (PG) 5.15pm, 8.30pm

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) The Last Days Of Disco (15) 2.30pm, 8pm The Spanish Prisoner (PG) 7.30pm

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Thief (15) 5.45pm

PLYMOUTH PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Love And Death On Long Island (15) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010); Dr Dollttle (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Species II (18); The X-Files (15) ODEON (01273-207977); Armageddon (12); Dr Dollttle (PG); He Got Game (18); The Horse Whisperer (PG); The Little Mermaid (U): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Lost In Space (PG); The X-Files (15)

VIRGIN (0541-555145); Armageddon (12); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Dr Dolittle (PG); Godzilla (PG); The Horse Whisperer (PG); The Little Mermald (U) Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar Cock, Scock of two Shoking bar-rels (18); Lost in Space (PG); The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot (U); Mr Magoo (PG); Species II (18); The X-Files (15)

ODEON (01483-578017); Armageddon (12); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Dr Dollttle Great Adventure (U); Dr Dolittle (PG); Flubber (U); George Of The Jurgle (U); Godzilla (PG); Good Burger (PG); The Horse Whisperer (PG); The Little Mermaid (U); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Lost in Space (PG); The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot (U); MouseHunt (PG); The Spanish Prisoner (PG); The X-Files (15)

A B C (0870-9020417); Armageddon (12); Lock, Stock & Tero Smoking Barrels (18); Lost in Space (PG); Species II (18)

ODEON (01734-576803); Armageddon (12); Dr Dolittle (PG): Good Burger (PG): The Horse Whisperer (PG): The Little Mermald (U): MouseHunt (PG); Paws (PG); The X-Files (15)

SHOWCASE (0118-374 7700): Armageddon (12); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Dr Dolittle (PG): Godzilla (PG): He Got Game (18); The Horse Whisperer (PG): The Little Mermaid (U); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Lost in Space (PG); The Proposition (12); Species II (18); The X-Files (15)

VIRGIN (0541-555134): Armageddon (12); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Dr Dolittle (PG); Godzilla (PG); The Horse Whisperer (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Lost In Space (PG); The Magic Sword:

THEATRE WEST END

Ticker availability details are for today: times and prices for the week; running times include intervals • — Seats at all prices • — Seats at some orices () — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thu. [6]: Frl, [7]: Sat

ART Stacy Keach, David Dukes, George Wendt in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ⊕ Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm. [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

• BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Dis-ney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) ⊕ Tott Ct Rd. Mon, Wed-Sat 7.30pm, Tue 6.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

 BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. Phoenix Charmusical melodrama. Prioentx Char-ling Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ⊕ Lek Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

● BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ● Covent Garden/Charing X. Iue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm. Sat Spm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm. £6.75-£30. 160 mlns.

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ⊕ Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£35. 165 mins. O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars

in this hit Broadway musical.
Adelphi Maiden Lane, WCZ (0171344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat
8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36
(Incl booking fee). 130 mins. I CLOSER Superb study of

contemporary sexual relationships from Deuler's Choice author Patrick Marber, Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £7.50-£27.50. 140 mins. ● THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

WILLIAM SHARESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, WI (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, [1] 4pm. £9.50-£20. 120 mins. D CRAVE New drama from Sarah Kane, looking at love, loss and desire. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Am-bassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) → Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [7] 4pm, (10 Sept 7pm), £5-£10, benches 10p, Mon-all reage £5.

- ali sears £5. ● DR DOLTTLE Phillip Schofield stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. Labatt's Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street. W6 (0171-416 6022) → Hammersmith, Tue-Sat 7.30pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins.

Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30, 150 mins.

) THE HONEST WHORE Middleton and Dekker's collaborative melodrama. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) & London Bridge. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends Sept. £5-£20. concs le. 180 mins

● AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo-

pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production Havmarket Havmarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [Ś] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £7.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

● AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller. production of JB Priestley's Initial.

Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2
(0171-494 5085) Leic Sq. MonFri 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm. [4]
2.30pm. [7] 5pm. £10.50-£25.
110 mins.

JUKY BITS Sery look at the lives of a selection of twentysomethings. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) ← Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 12 Sept. £5-£14.

THE LADY BOYS OF BANGKOK Cabaret performance, HAMGKOK Cabaret performance, featuring stunning female impersonators. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Tue & Thu 8pm., Wed. Fri & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm, ends 26 Sept, £10.50-£30. 110 mins.

A LETTER OF RESIGNATION Hugh Whitemore's play about the Profumo affair and political morali-Frumma and punical morali-fly: Savoy Strand, WC2 (017)-836 8888/cc 836 0479) & Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £12.50-£25. 135 mins.

● LOOT Acclaimed revival of Joe Orton's comedy. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/⊕ Char-

ing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8-£25. 110 mins. A MAD WORLD MY MASTERS Wilderor's comic look at London low-life in the 17th century. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) & London Bridge. In rep., mat today 2pm, ends 19 Sept, £5-£20, concs available.

 MAJOR BARBARA Jemma
 Redgrave and Peter Bowles star. Pic-Redgrave and Peter Bowies star. Pro-cadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 2.30pm. [7] 3pm, £8.50-£27.50. 180 mins.

LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Bugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7-30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mirs.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury ane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171 494 5060) & Covent Garden. Mon Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35.

• THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodumalt St Marcin's West Street, WCZ (0171-836 1443) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £9-£23. 135 mins

BROMLEY O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Haymarker, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4944) Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35.

● PHEDRE Diana Rigg stars in Poet Laureate Ted Hughes's new translation of Racine's tragedy. Albery St Martin's Lane, WCZ Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 1111) ← Lefc Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm(tonigh 7pm), [7] 3pm, £5-£29.50.

● POPCORN Lawrence Boswell lirects Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, ends 12 Sept, £6.50-£23.50.

• THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Double bill of drama from Tom Stoppard and Peter Schaffer, directed by Gregory Doran. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ⊕ Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £7.50-£27.50. 165 mins,

• RENT Musical inspired by Lo Boheme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) ⊕ Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE O OLIMER: Oktahoma! Classic mu-sical from Rodgers and Hammer-stein, leaturing the song "Oh What A Beautiful Mornin". Mon-Sat 7.15pm, mats Wed & Sat 2pm, ends

3 Oct. 190 mins. LYTTELTON: Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle And Dick Terry Johnson's new play looks at the Carry On actors and recreates Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Babs Windsor on stage. Tonight 7.30pm, continuing in rep. Lyttelton: £8-£27. Olivier: £12-£32.50, Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000). & Embankment

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring leg-endary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Gercia. London Palladium Argyll Street. W1 (0171-494 5020) ↔ Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 mins.

) SHOW BOAT Jerome Kern and the Mississippi. Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) & Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm,

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE - THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock not hit-makers celebrated in a musical revue that includes "Jailhouse Rock". Prince Of Wales Coventry Street. W1 (0171-Wates Coventy Steet, W1 (0171-839 5972) ← Leic Sq/Picc Circ, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.45pm & 8.30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32.50, Fri mats £10-£25, 135 mins.

■ STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech rollermusical, Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/+ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.) THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE

Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayek-bourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street. WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£27.50. O VIA DOLOROSA David Hare writes and performs this meditation on a trip to Israel and Palestine. Roy-

al Court (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic So/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 3 Oct, £5-£25. OWNSTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwrych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) ➡ Holborn.

Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins. ● THE WOMAN IN BLACK SU-Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Play About The Baby Edward Albee's new play which explores the nships between four people. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 10 Oct. £9.50-£19.50, concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) ♣ Angel/Highbury & Is-

JERMYN STREET THEATRE Gloomy Sunday: Three Miracles in The Life Of A Careless Trapeze Artist Funny and moving account of the life of controversial blues composer Rudi Seress. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Sat & Sun 4pm, ends 12 Sept. £15, concs £10. Jermyn Street, SW1 (0171-287 2875) ₱ Piccadilly Cir-

LYRIC STUDIO Handbag Or The Importance Of Being Someone Mark Rayenhill's new drama takes a look at the art of parenting in the age of sexual diversity. From 9 Sept, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4.30pm, ends 10 Oct. £5-£10. King Street, W 6 (0181-741 2311)

YOUNG VIC STUDIO UBU Kunst New translation of Jarry's classic by comedian Luis Alberto Soto. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 19 Sept. £8, concs £5. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363)

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BATH THEATRE ROYAL Our Lady Of Stigo Out Of Joint's latest production Sugo Cut CT John's latest production stars Sinead Cusack. 9 Sept. 7.30pm. 10-12 Sept. 8pm. £10-£21.50. St Johns Place (01225-448844/cc 448861)

USTINOV STUDIO AT THE THEATRE ROYAL Car Maintenance, Explosives And Love Surreal comedy for car lovers. 9-10 Sept. phone for times and prices. Saviciose (01225-448844/cc 448861)

THEATRE ROYAL How The Other Half Loves Alan Ayckbourn's comedy of modern manners. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thu-Sat 8pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Oct. £3-£19. King Street (0117-987 7877)

CHURCHILL THEATRE Annie Ragsto-riches story of the nauseatingly optimistic orphan. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 12 Sept. £12-£19.50, concs available. High Street (0181-460 6677)

9 **4D** 9

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call ONE OF George Washington's favourite plays was Sheridan's The School for Scandal, And if that isn't recommendation enough, what about Charles Lamb swearing it soothed him in old age? Fortunately. this Restoration comedy needs no such plaudits as it has intrigued successive generations with its array of social types. In Declan Donnellan's muchanticipated production expect infidelity, intrigue and characters rejoicing in such names as Joseph Surface and Lady Sneerwell:

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avan, Warwickshire (01789 295623) from 9 Oct to 24 Oct

Last Call

IT'S A common fallacy that young people only listen to what's in the charts. The youthful Stockport band Gomez (right), for example, cite Isaac Hayes, vintage American rock and Curtis Mayfield among their influences. Their debut album, Bring it On, puts them in a league above their peers, and has invited comparisons with the work of Tom Waits and Captain Beefheart.

The Garage, Glasgow (0141-332 1120) 25 Oct; Manchester University, Manchester (0161-200 3270) 28 Oct; Empire Theatre, London (0181-740 1515) 29 Oct

CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE The **EXHIBITIONS** ABERYSTWYTH

cherry Orchard Chekhov's great play about a Russian family faced with change, presented by Method And Madness. 9-11 Sept, 7.45pm, 12 Sept, 2.30pm & 8pm. £4.50-£14.50. Regent Street (01242-572573) ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE An Italian Dream: Luci Melegari Prints inspired by Northern Italy. India 50 Photographs by Sebastao Salgado. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. ends 28 Sept. free. Penglais (01970-**623232**1

THE OTHER SPACE AT THE EVERYMAN THEATRE Mrs Pepys New play about the turbulent life of Elizabeth St Michel, wife of the famous diarist Samuel Pepys. 9-12 Sept. 8pm. \$77. Regent Street (01)242-572573 BATH BATH
THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY Exposure! RPS Members
Member's work. Mon-Sun 9.30am5.30pm, ends 13 Sept. £2.50,
concs £1.75. The Octagon
Galleries, Milsom Street (01225-MINERVA STUDIO THEATRE Song

CAMBRIDGE

25 Oct.

Of Singapore Issy Van Randwyc stars in this musical comedy set in 1940s Singapore. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mars Thu & Sat 2.45pm, ends 12 Sept. E10-E17.50. Oaklands Park BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Udomsak Krisanamis ARNOLFINI Udomsak Krisanamis And Peter Doig Work by the two widely exhibited artists. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 18 Oct. free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191) (01243-781312)

BELGRADE THEATRE Limeston Cowboy Musical in the country'n'western vein. Mon-Thu 7.30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 19 Sept. £9-£15, concs £7. Corporation Street (01203-553055)

(01242-572573)

CHICHESTER

DETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Women On The Verge Of HRT Two forty-something women discuss their situation. From 9 Sept. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 19 Sept. £7-£15. Stocker Road (01392-493493)

GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Good Grief Penelope Keith is directed by Ned Sherrin in the stage adaptation of Reith Waterhouse's novel studying the grieving process. Mon-Thu 7.45pm. Fri-Sat 8pm. mats The & Sat 2.30pm, ends 12 Sept. £10-£21,50, concs available, Milibrook

LEKESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE The Rink Kander And Ebb's sassy musical Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 26 Sept. £8-£18, concs available. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797)

WATERMILL THEATRE The Government Inspector Gogo's tale of correction and greed in 1860 Wessex, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Oct. £6-£15, concs available. Bagnor (01635-46044)

NORTHAMPTON THE DERNGATE Buddy Musical tribute to the late Buddy Holly. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 5.30pm & 8.30pm. £8.50-£21.50, concs available. Guild-

hall Road (01604-624811) **ROYAL THEATRE Cider With Ros** Laurie Lee's classic tale of love in a rural light is adapted for the stage. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 26 Sept. £9-£26. Guildhall Road (01604-632 533)

THEATRE ROYAL And Then There Were None Agatha Christie's whodumit set in a lonely house on a remote island. 9-12 Sept. 7.30pm. mat 9 Sept. 2.30pm. £3-£15. Theatre Street (01603-630000)

OXFORD
PLAYHOUSE THEATRE Gentlemen Prefer Blondes Sara Crowe stars in this musical featuring the song, "Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend" 9, 10 & 12 Sept. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 11 Sept, 8pm. £8-£19.50. Beaumont Street (01865-798600)

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL Oliver Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 12 Sept. £12.50-£30, concs available. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

READING
THE MILL AT SONNING Don't Rock the Boat Comedy set on a converted barge. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 17 Oct. £20.95-£31.95 incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Antony And Cleopatra This tale of over-wheiming pession stars Cathy Tyson. In rep. 9-11 Sept., 7,30pm, ends 1 Oct. £8-£15. Maithouse Lane

SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE Girls' Night Out Hen-right comedy by Dave Simpson. 9-11 Sept, 7.30pm, 12 Sept, 6pm & 8.30pm. £10-£18. Commercial Road (01703-711811)

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE Dead Purmy Caroline Quentin directs Terry Johnson's comedy about a man's obsession with dead comedians. Mon-Thu 7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 26 Sept. £4-£15.75, concs £4-£9.50. Clarendon Road (01923-225671)

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA SOUTHAMPTON
JOHN HANSARD GALLERY Jorge CLIFFS PAVILION Jesus Christ Superstar Tim Rice and Lloyd Webber's accisimed biblical musical. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 9pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 5.30pm, ends 26 Sept. £12.50-£25.50. Station Road Molder Portuguese photographer holds his first show in the UK. Tue-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm, ends 12 Sept, free. The University (01703-592158) (01702-351135)

CLASSICAL

OPERA

Part Blake: Shock with other resembles of his literature. LONDON

Four American Painters: Franken-thaler, Noland, Olitski, Poons In-DANCE portant figures in America's avant-garde. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 8 Nov, free. Trumpington Screet (01223 332900)

KETTLE'S YARD Playing With Paradox: George Fullard 1923-1973 Retrospective of the prominent Sheffield scuiptor: Rue-Sat 12.30pm 5.30pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm, ends 20 Sept. free. Castle Street (01223-352124)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES Victorian Visions: From Rosetti To Whisier Victorian drawings and watercolours. waterconsurers As Patrons Over 250 works from the Royal Collection. Tue-Sun 10am-Spm, ends 8 Nov. £4.25, child & concs £2.50 (to museum). Cathays

aples of his illustration. Ends

NATIONAL GALLERY Venice three paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed to 8pm), Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 11 Oct, free. Trafalgar Square. WC2 (0171-839 3321) ⊕ Charing

Park (01222-397951)

Cross, Leicester Square. ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Critical Mass: Antony Gormley Sixty casts of human bodies. Mon-Sun all day, ends 30 Sept, free. Chagall: Love And The Stage Featuring colourful murals made in Reacuring columni murals made in Bussia. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (Fri to 8.30pm), ends 4 Oct. £6, concs £5. NUS £4, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1. Burlington House, Piccadil-ly, W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 413 1717) • Green Park/Piccadlily

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART Gitroy Is Good For You: John Gilroy Centenary of the life of the Guiness toucan creator. Phone for times, ends 3 Sept. free. Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-590 4444) & South Kens-ington/High Street Kensington.

TATE GALLERY Moonlight And TATE GALLERY MOORIGHT AND FIREIGNET Watercolours From The Turner's interest in mooriight and fireight. Ends 11 Nov. Warhol And Benys: Loans From The Froelich Collection Work by leading 20th-century artists. Ends 20 Seet

20 Sept. Art Now 15: Floria Banner New paintings and a drawings inspired by popular culture. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 1 Nov, free. Milibank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) ⊕ Pimlico.

NORMICH NORWICH CASTLE MUSEUM Modern British and European Painting c.1880-1940 Including work by Munnings and Gwen John. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 6 Dec. £2.40, concs £1.60, child £1.10. Castle Meadow (0.1602-223624) (01603-223624)

SAINSBURY CENTRE FOR VISU-AL ARTS Colour in Abstraction And The Abstract Book Special display of Abstract and Constructivist work drawn from the collection. Tue-Sun 11am-5pm, continuing, £2, concs/child £1. Earlham Road (01603-593199)

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM
Drawings: Claude Lorrain 16001682 Over 100 drawings covering
every aspect of the artist's work.
Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm,
ends 13 Sept, free, Beaumont
Street (01865-278000) MUSEUM OF MODERN ART A

Conversation Piece: John Murphy - Juliao Sarmento Collaboration of paintings, objects and installation, fue-Sun 11am-6pm (Thu to 9pm), ends 4 Oct. £2.50 (free Wed morn & Thu eve), concs £1.50, child free. Pembroke Street (01865-722733)

LONDON
BARBICAN HALL London Schools Symphony Orchestra/Lubbock Stravinsky's Firebird Suite and Shostakovich's Symphony No.5. Tonight 7.30pm. E5-E12. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891)

PURCELL ROOM Phillida Bannister 20th century songs on exile for contralto. Tonight 7.30pm. E9, concs E7. South Bank. SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Bouremouth Symphony Orchestra/Kreizberg Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No.3 and Schmidt's Symphony No.4. Tonight 7.30pm. E3-E20. Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) O High Street Kensington.

COUPEN ELIZABETH HALL Cost fan tutte Mozart's sparkling comedy in a production by British Youth Opera. Tonight 7.30pm. £5. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242)

THE CASTLE JazzXchange: Special Request Dance, film and poetry with jazz, blues and hip hop. lonight 7.30pm. £8.50, concs £6.50. Castle Way (01933-270007)

SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEACOCK THEATRE Cool Heat. Broan Beat Hip hop, street tap, percussion and postry from America, Tonight 8pm. £7.50-£25. Portugal Street, WC2 (0181-863 8222) & Holbort/Temple.

ROVAL SESTIVAL HALL Raices Flamencas The great Andalucian Farrueo family perform a fitting Flamenco tribute to their late patriarch. Tonight 7.30pm. £10-£35. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/⊕ Waterloo.

LITERATURE

AUTHOR EVENT: SEBASTIAN FAULES The author of moving WWI hit novel Birdsong reads from his new book, Charlotte Gray, Waterstone's Booksellers Milsom Street (01225-448515) Tonight 7pm, free.

LONDON POETRY AMONG THE PIRANHAS Readings by award-winning poets To-bras Bill and Carol Ann Duffy with an interval to explore the aquarium. The Aquarium At London Zoo Rent's Park NW1 (0171-420 9895) \varTheta Camden Town, Tonight 7.30pm, £8 incl. wine.

COMEDY

ARDAL O'HANLON AT JACKSON'S LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE TO Father Ted star warms up pre-tour. Tonight 8pm, E5, concs £4. Archway Road, N6 (0181-341 4421) Highgate.

LIVEWORKS STAND UP AT THE DOGSTAR, FIRST FLOOR Adam Bloom, Logan Murray, Rick Smallwood, MC Will Smith. Tonight 8pm. £4, concs £3, FOURPLAY AT THE DOGSTAR.

SECOND FLOOR Comedy sketch show Acts To Grind, Tonight 8pm, £4, concs £3. Coldharbour Lane, SW9 (0171-737 3177) + Brixton. CAMDEN LOCK COMEDY REVUE AT THE LOCK TAVERN Musical co-Art the LOCK RAVEAN Musical co-median Mitch Benn, Howard Smith, Adam Bromley, John Dredge, MC Chris Hansford. Tonight 9.15pm, 53.50, mems £2. Chalk Farm Road.

GEDDIT AT COSMIC COMEDY CLUB Topical comedy revue show with Les Keen. Robin Ince. Dan Evans, Noel Kelly, Neville Raven, Timandra Harkness. Tonight 8pm. free. Fulham Palace Road, W6 (0171-381 2006) O Hammersmith

NW1 (0171-387 9304) & Camden

CLUBS

THE GOODLY WEDNESDAY AT THE FEZ Garage night with Strictly Rhythm. Tonight Spm-2am, E4, concs £3. Market Passage (01223-323880)

CAMBRIDGE

STARSKY AND HUTCH UPSTAIRS AT RONNIE SCOTT'S Much-loved 1976s disco, funk and rare groove club. Tonight 10pm-3am, Frith Street. W1 (0181-654 0523) & Leicester Square, £6, NUS £4, mems £3.

LIVE AT THE SPITZ An evening of electrifying sights and sounds. Foright Bpm-12midnight, Commercial Street, E1 (0171-392 9032) & Liverpool Street, £3, free w/flyer.

EVENTS

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BRIGHTON FORENSIC - BAGS OF EVIDENCE The Scratch crew offers an entertaining approach to visual art. Hove Museum & Art Gattery New Church Road (01273-290200) Ends 4 Oct. phone for details

HEVER ANNE BOLEYN BOOKS OF ANNE BOLEYN BOOKS OF HOURS EXHIBITION Exhibition of the 1450 manuscript signed and in-scribed by Anne Boleyn. Hever Cas-tle & Gardens (01732-865224) Mon-Sun 1 Lam-Spm, ends 30 Nov. E7, QAP E6, Child (5-16) £3 80, family £17.80 (castle & grounds).

EXECUTIVE PA SHOW Premium exhibition dedicated to the professional needs of top PAs and senior secretaries. Business Design Centre Upper Street N1 (0171-336 7029) & Angel Today 8,30am-5.30pm, tree. MILLENNIUM MILE: SOUTH BANK & BANKSIDE Models and images to reflect what the southern Thames riv-er bank will look like in the year 2000.

LONDON

The Gallery, Ono Tower Wharf ground floor Bargehouse Street SE1 (0171-928 6193) & Waterlao, Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 14 Sept, free. LOST RIVERS Exhibition of Native American poetry and illustration. Barbican Library, Barbican Centre Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 0672) Bartican/Moorgate, Mon 9,30am-5,30pm, Tue-Fri 9,30am-7,30pm, Sat 12,30pm-5,30pm, ends 1 Oct.

ST ALBANS MY ST ALBANS Celebration of the lives of local people. Museum of St Albans Hatfield Road 01727-819340) Mon-Sat 10am-Spm. Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 1 Nov.

CHIRIS PACKHAM LOOKS AT PARADISE LOST TV presenter Packham talks about his recent travels. Marwell Zoological Park Owslebury (01962-777406/7) Tonight 7.30pm, £5.50, child £3.50.

MUSIC POP

MINCHESTER

LONDON MY DRUG HELL Doomy '60s-goth outfit. Blues West 14 Russell Gardens W14 (0171-603 7878) O High Street Kensington. Tonight 8.30pm, £3.

Garage Highbury Corner NS {0171-607 1818/cc 0171-344 0044) O Highbury & Islington. Tonight 8pm, £6. CORNELIUS Faniasma album tour for the eccentric Japanese samplebasher LA2 Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 0403) ← Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 8pm, £8.50. FRED JAMES BAND LIShings-mek performer Station Tavern Bramley Road W10 (0171-727 4053)

LEONARDO'S BRIDE Australian folk-rock band. Upstairs at the

DAVID DEVANT Quirky indie band. Water Rats Theatre Gray's Inn Road WC1 (0181-885 6488) O King's Cross. Tonight 8.30pm, £5,

MUSIC

◆ Latimer Road. Tonight 8.30pm.

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK EASTLEIGH COTTON CLUB BAND Nostalaic CONTON CORRESPONDED TO THE CONTON CONCORD CONTON CONT

LOZ SPEYER TRIO Milesish trumpeter plays contemporary bop. Al's Cafe Bar Exmouth Market EC1 (0171-837 4821) & Farringdon. Tonight 10pm, phone for prices. 6TH SENSE With saxist Adam McCulloch. Barbican Centre FreeStage Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 8891) & Barbkan/Moor-

gate. Tonight 5.30pm, free.

LONDON

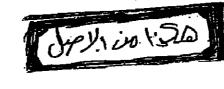
modern pionist, Mezzo Wardour Street W1 (0171-314 4000) ◆ Leicester Square Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 10pm, free. JEAN TOUSSAINT SAND Trendy Afro-Caribbeom juzz from Guilchall guru. Pizza Express Jazz Club

ROLAND PERRIN Accomplished

Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 9pm, £12.50 (Fri-Sat £15). HENRY LOWTHER/CHRIS BIS-COE/TIM WELLS/STU BUTTER-FIELD Sax and trumpet-led jazz. The Plough Museum Street WC1

(0171-636 7964) & Tottenham CTL Rd. Tonight 8 30pm, £4, concs £3. GEORGIE FAME Hip bluesy vocalist, Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) • Leicester Square Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9.30pm, £12, mems £4,

PARTISANS Electric fusion with Phil Robson and Julian Siegal. Vortex Stoke Newington Church St N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke ington, Tonight 9pm, £6.



Radio 1

(976-99.8MHz FM)

6.30 Clive Warren.

(88-902MHz FM)

Radio 3

6.00 On Air.

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks.

Week: Janacek,

5.00 in Tune.

1L00 Sound Stories.

of the Day. 2.00 BBC Proms 98. (R)

3.40 Musique Heroique.

4.00 Choral Evensong.

6.30 Chris Moyles, 9.00 Simon

Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark

Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30

sion. 8.30 Movie Update with Mark

Kermode, 8.40 John Peel, 10.30

Breezeblock 2.00 Emma B 4.00 -

6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Wake Up to

Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00

Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart,

5.05 John Duan. 7.00 Nick Barra-

clough 8.00 Mike Harding 9.00

Gloria Estetan's Sounds of Miami.

10.00 Top of the Pops 2 on 2

10.30 Proms Artist of the Week.

1.00 Lunchtime Concert. See Pick

7.30 BBC Proms 98. A tyrical, haunting

symphony brings the music of Franz

Schmidt, a contemporary of Mahler,

to the Proms for the first time. It

contrasts with two aspects of the

Russian genius - Glinka's sparkling

overture and Rachmaninov's popular

concerto in its all-embracing sound

world of colour and virtuosity. Arkady

SO/Yakov Kreizberg, Glinka: Overture

'Ruslan and Ludmilla'. Rachmaninov:

Roderick Dunnett Investigates a great but forgotten Austrian romantic.

9.50 Postscript. A five-part series

in which leading philosophers offer

their appreciation of great thinkers.

is best known for his defence of

quasi-realism, an account of the

3: Hume. Professor Simon Blackburn

Sky Movies Screen 1 6.00 Back to the Planet of the Apes (1974)

(60116469). 7.40 That's Right - You're

Wrong (1939) (54010915), **9.15** Running Brave (1983) (19160489): **11.00** Race

against the Harvest (1987) (27996), 'LOO That's Right - You're Wrong (1999) (19460), 3.00 Seat Devis*1(1937) (27557)-530(1)

Back to the Planet of the Apes (1974)

(65847). **7.00** Race against the Harvest (1987) (25880). **9.00** Stolen Innocence

(1995) (84080). **11.00** Waiting to Exhale

Hours (1997) (6866213). 2.35 Americanski

Bues (1995) (250213), 4.45 - 6.00 Running

(1995) (44540712). 1.05 Five Desperate

6.05 Old Man (1997) (22911489). 8.00

Redwood Curtain (1995) (94422). 10.00 A

12.00 Old Man (1997) (17373). 2.00 Made

Different Kind of Christmas (1996) (87557)

in Heaven (1987) (19170). 4.00 Redwood

Princess (1994) (40646). 8.00 The Ghost

and the Darkness (1996) (52921), 10.00 Screamers (1995) (324083), 11.50 Muthol-

land Falls (1996) (264557), **1.40** Desperate Trail (1994) (325841), **3.15 - 6.00** Escape

4.00 Stage Door* (1937) (9057915). 6.00

Armie Celdey* (1935) (2861115) 8.00 Seconds* (1966) (2833335). 10.00 Die Hard (1988) (44102996). 12.15 Stone Cold (1991)

3). 1.50 The Pumpkin Eater (1964)

Curtain (1995) (9712), 6,000 The Swan

Brave (1983) (593126).

Volodos (piano), Bournemouth

Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor.

8.20 Who Was Franz Schmidt?.

8.40 Concert, part 2. Schmidt:

Symphony No 4.

12.00 Proms Composer of the

10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Steve

Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Annie Othen.

Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The

Steve Lamacq - the Evening Ses-

REVIEW W

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to Nowhere (1996) (38440590).

Sky Movies Gold

(4077478), 2.00 Real Stories of the High-way Patrol (7049294), 2.30 Cops (7131229). 3.00 Films: LA Bounty (1989) (7961316), **5.00** The Besement (820574). **5.30 - 6.00** Fresky Stories (5627297). Discovery Channel 4.00 Fishing Adventures (2907996). 4.30 Top Merques (2996380). 5.00 Fightime (6160557). 5.30 Jurassica II (2910460). 6.00 Wildlife SOS (2917373). 6.30 Wild Dogs (5731625). 7.30 Arthur C Clarke 2014800. (2904809). **8.00** Survivorsi (7112606).

9.00 Survivorsi (3068199), 9.30 Death

WEDNESDAY RADIO

PICK OF THE DAY

RICHARD HOGGART, writing in Newcastle to chair a debate on this paper last Saturday, mulled English identity. One conclusion he came to was that he would class himself a Yorkshireman first, an Englishman second. The theme is picked up in tonight's edition of Inside Out (8pm R4). Bryars' Quartet No 3. Lesley Riddoch (right) travels to

world which attempts to reconcile

with the stark ontology of modern

thinks laid the foundations for a

modern scientific philosophy. (R) 10.05 Mendelssohn. String

Quartet No 2 in A minor, Op 13.

10.45 Viewing the Century - Manuel

Castells. Another chance to hear

commentators on the century give

their views on the landmark events

In the first programme, Manuel

that have changed the way we think

Castells, author of The Information Age and Professor of Sociology and

City and Regional Planning at the

University of California, Berkeley,

wave of libertarianism in the 1960s.

the creation and collapse of Com-

information around the globe. (R)

12.00 Proms Composers of the

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

Week: Eisler and Weill. (R)

9.45 The Owls Watchsong.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.

11.00 NEWS; Crimescapes. (R)

11.30 Jazz Notes.

(924-94.6MHz FM)

11.30 Punchines.

12.57 Weather.

Radio 4

6.00 Today.

9.00 Midweek

munism, and the impact of the tech-

nological revolution on how we pass

talks to Peter Conrad about the

the series in which leading

Sorrel Quartet.

the question of English regional over the vexed question of what identity - is there enough of it Englishness is - whether indeed, for regional government to there is such a thing as an make sense? Today's Lunchtime Concert (1pm R3) comes live from St Augustine's Church, Edgbaston: the Lyric Quartet play the Ravel string quartet and the first broadcast of Gavin ROBERT HANKS



1.30 Inspiration. (R) our experience of the world's richness 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Play: Roy and Daisy. (R) science. In this programme, he talks about his hero, David Hurne, who he 3.00 NEWS; Gardeners' Question 3.30 Blind Man on the Rampage. (R)

3.45 The Lyrical Ballads. 4.00 NEWS; All in the Mind. 4.30 Thinking Allowed. 5.00 PM 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Dan and Nick: the Wildebeest

7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 735 Front Row, Mark Lawson presents arts news, reviews and debates. 7.45 Dear Jayne Browne. End of Innocence' by Nick Fisher. Voices from the past call Jayne back to a final reckoning and reveal crucial clues to the identity of her nameless correspondent. With Jill Balcon, Stella Gonet, Angela Pleasence and Valerie Sarruf. Director Celia de Wolff (3/5).

8.00 NEWS; Inside Out. English regional identity comes under the spotlight in tonight's debate from the Council Chambers in Newcastle. Following Scottish and Welsh devolution, Lesley Riddoch asks if there is any demand for regional governments for England. See Pick of the Day.

8.45 Tonight's Homework. Hwee Hwee Tan grew up in Singapore, and all she remembers about it is school, school and more school. As the joke goes, 'How do you know your parents are Asian?" 'When the only English words they know are

Oxford, Harvard and MIT. 9,00 NEWS: Enright's Universe, 'Far Horizons'. Leo Enright journeys to the outer planets courtesy of some of the most sophisticated space hardware ever built. 9.30 Midweek. Lively conversation

with Libby Purves and guests. 10.00 The World Tonight. With Robin Lustig 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Potato Gatherers. Gerard McSorley reads the third of five short stories by Brian Friel. Philly has taken a day off school to earn his first wage and soon discovers that it is harder work

than he expected. 11.00 Hearing with Hegley. Poet John Hegley entertains, wielding a microphone and a book of verse. With Nigel Piper and the Popticians. 11.15 The Goldfish Bowl. t1.30 The Nualas. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Tales from

Ovid. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

Radio 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 • 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57

Radio 5 Live (693, 909kHz MW)

6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 100 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Nationwide. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Football Night. lan Payne presents coverage of the night's live action, including Chelsea vs Arsenal, Manchester United vs. Charlton, Liverpool vs Coventry and Tottenham vs Blackburn in the Premiership, as well as news of the night's league games. 10.00 Littlejohn. Talk about the night's live football action and the latest stories with Richard Littlejohn on 0500 909693. 11.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson, Including a late news briefing at 1100, and at 1115 The Financial World Tonight and a topical late-night discussion. 1.00 Up All Night.

Classic FM (1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Balley. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Bobby Hain, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Mark Forrest /FM only Paul Coyte from 6.45. 7.30 Paul Coyte. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 1.00 Peter Poulton. 4.30 - 6.30 Jeremy Clark.

World Service (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Omnibus. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Books). 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 - 7.00 The World Today.

Talk Radio 7.00 Bill Overton and Kirsty Young. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 11.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Raeburn. 3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter Deeley. 7.00 Nick Abbot. 9.00 James Whale, 1.00 lan Collins. 5.00 - 7.00 Early Show with

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

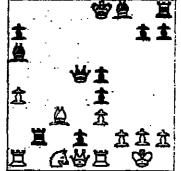
CHESS JON SPEELMAN

FOLLOWING JAN Timman's fine performance as Black in the first game against Gary Kasparov, as detailed yesterday, we might have hoped that he would be able to keep up the good work with the white pieces. But it was not to be. Generally, Kasparov plays the

King's Indian against Timman but this time be surprised the Dutchman with the Slav Defence. In an echo of yesterday's game, Black again snatched a pawn for some compensation. Again White's compensation turned out to be inadequate, but this time grossly so, and Kasparov was able not only to keep his material but also to seize both space and a burgeoning initiative which quickly gathered the whole point. This defeat as White leaves Timman and his seconds. Ulf Andersson and Ivan Sokolov, with plenty of work to do: though in a short match of just six games, I wouldn't be too surprised if Kasparov who has Yuri Dokhoian as his second) presents a moving target, rather than repeating the Slav in his next Black

In the opening, 5 a4 is more usual to prevent... b5. With 8 Qc2, White's idea is to lure the black pawns forward, after which if he can capture the et pawn then he will have a structural advantage. He has to grant Black a temporary initiative: but in Kasparov's hands this became permanent.

15 Bf3? was bad, but the alternative, 15 Nd6+ Bxd6 16 Bxa6 Oxe5 17 f4 Qc5 18 Bxc8 dxe3 19 Kh1 0-0, 14 Naxc4 Qd5 leaves Black with massive compen- 15 Bf3? Ne4 sation for the exchange. After the 16 Nxc6 Rxc6



excellent self-pin, 15...Ne4, Black seems already to be winning

In the diagram, White is scuppered by a back rank mate: if 24 Bxb2 dxe1Q+ 25 Qxe1 Bb4! 26 Qxb4 Qdi+. Timman showed his aesthetic sense by resigning, immediately after his opponent castled.

> White: Jan Timman Black: Gary Kasparov Prague (Game 2) 1998

Slav Defence 2 c4 c6 18 Re1 d3 3 NB N6 19 Nxb3 e5 20 Bd2 Rb6 4 Nc3 dxc4 21 Bxe4 fxe4 5 e3 b5 6 a4 b4 22 Net Rate 7 Nb1 Ba6 23 Bc3 d2 8 Qc2 b3 24 Rft Baft (see 9 Qd1 c6 diagrana) 10 Be2 c3 25 Bxb2 Bc4 11 0-0 Nc6 26 Ne2 Bb3 12 Ne3 Rc8

27 Ne3 Bxd1 13 Na3 13...exd4 28 Nxd5 Bh3 29 Ne. Bb4

BRIDGE

LEARN FROM Stors by Mark Horton and Tony Sowter (Butsford, 9.99) is not an introduction to astrology but a collection of intriguing deals, old and new. Many are familiar and I certainly remember this hand, having watched it live (well, on Bridgerama) in 1990 and been mildly amused by the commentator's remarks. You will appreciate that we could see all four hands.

North opened One Club, East overcalled with One Heart, and South tried 2 No-trumps. North raised to game and West, Bobby Goldman of America, led ♥9 and South held O A as well as his two winning hearts but, reasoned declarer, perhaps there was the outside chance of being able to play the clubs

After winning the third heart lead, Bridge News declarer crossed to dummy with a spade and led 💠 Q. East covered with the king but, under the ace. Goldman dropped the jack! "Routine!" said the commentator. "Quite right if his partner had started with 4 K 10, but now he has just given away an overtrick."

Not so at all. Convinced that East must have started with \$\, \mathbf{K} \, 9 \, 4, declarer crossed to dummy with another top spade and finessed \$8. West won unexpectedly with his nine and got off lead with a spade. South now had only eight winners and, when he finally played on diamonds, he was - Irvine Gordon and Boris Schapiro of annoyed to find that it was West who held A all the time. What was worse. West now cashed the lowly \$\displays\$6 for the setting trick.

◆AK8 **672** OKQ6 **4**Q7653 West East **4**6432 **4975** ₹KQJ54 2986 OA 1075 ØJ32 **4**J9 •4 South **♦QJ10** ♥A 103 0984 ♣A 1082

Love all: dealer North

North

The final results of the World Cham-

pionships in Lille are as follows: The Vivendi Rosenblum cup was won by Italy (Lanzarotti, Versace, Sementa, Angelini, Lauria & Buratti). The Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup went to Austria (Sylvia Terranco, Maria Erhart, Doris Fischer, Terri Weigkricht). The Societé Générale Open Pairs went to Michal Kwiecien and Jarek Pszczola of Poland; the Louis Vuitton Women's Pairs was won by Jill Mevers and Shawn Quinn, US. The most sportage ular win was in the Senior Poirs by Great Britain, Boris first won a world championship (unofficial) 60 years ago; he is now 89. The partnership led

throughout, winning by a large margin.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

TONIGHT'S MATCH, Chelsea vs Vialli for Chelsea and Arsenal's of both the teams and their confused identity.

1), features two of the most guarantee an exciting match if glamorous club teams in the your nerves are frayed after the world. Chelsea boasts World football, take pains to avoid Cup winner Marcel Desailly, North by Northwest (9pm while Arsenal fields Emmanuel TNT), Alfred Hitchcock's 1959 Petit and Patrick Viera from that comic thriller. Cary Grant excels same victorious side, as well as as the happy-go-lucky adman Denis Bergkamp and Marc who finds himself plunged Overmars from the attractive into a Kafkaesque nightmare Dutch national 11. The attitudes of abduction, conspiracy and continental coaches - Gianluca

JAMES RAMPTON

er (8106441). 10.30 Wonders of Weather (8122489), 11.00 Outlews (7080680). 12.00 Fightline (5961532). 12.30 Top Marques (5531958). 1.00 Worlds Biggest Oil Platform (3784855). 2.00 Close.

8.00 Tettooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (56199). 8.30 Street Sharks (48170). 9.00 Garfield and Friends (39422), **9.30** The Simpsons (74083). **10.00** Gernes World (2544373), **10.5** Garnes World (2534996). 10.30 Just Kidding (35806). 11.00 The New Adventures of Superman (48731), 12.00 Married with Children (59286). 12.30 M*A*S*H (7042880). 12.55 The Special K Collection (61624915). 1.00 Geraldo (3067538). 1.55 The Special K Collection (51893286). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (5529719), 2.55 The Special K Collection (9161335), 3.00 Jenny Jones (4761809). 3.55 The Special K Collection (1943625). 4.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (95002), 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (3538), 6.00 Married with Children (8199). 6.30 Friends (2151). 7,00 The Simpsons (4257). 7.30 Real TV (8335). 8.00 Stargate SG-1 (14825) 9.00 The Outer Limits (34489), 10.00 Hollywood Sex (52969), 11.00 Friends (96731), 11.30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (16441), 12.30 Nowhere Man (19749), 1.30 - 8.00 Long Play (5723836).

Sky Sports 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3614035), 735 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire

(375460), **8.15** Sky Sports Centre (5106847), **8.30** Racing Naws (80267). 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (85737), 9.30 The Pavilion End (43977), 10.30 The Footballers' Football Show (17064). 11.30 World Windsurfing (12793). 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (84083), 12.30 Football League Review Sunderland vs Bristol City (20625). 2.00 LPGA Golf: Safeway Golf Championship (66002). 4.00 The Footballers' Football Show (35644), 5.00 World Wresting Federation Shot Gun (3170). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (8731). 6.30 European Tour Weekly (9083). 7.00 Full Throttle (199), 7.30 Ford Football Special Chelsea vs Arsenal. See Pick of the Day (26156660). 10.15 Sky Sports Centre (385625), **10.30** World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (13441), **12.30** Sky

Sports Centre (3557774), 12-45 Ford Football Special Chelsea vs Arsenai (315774), 215 Full Throttle (762519), 2.45 European Tour Weekly (754590), 3.15 Sky Sports Centre (14296395), 2.30 Close. Sky Sports 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (7421606), 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (5141354), 7.45 Racing News (8844002), 8.45 Fastrax (5341286). 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (2805082) 9.00 Fish TV The Ultimate Fishing Show (7125), 9.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (9755354, 10.00 V-Max (5337257), 10.30 Fastrax (178335), 11.00 Rugby Leagus Academy (7459489), 12.00 Golf Extra (5340731), 2.00 Tennis Fed Cup (4568828).

(5278070), **12.00** European Tour Weekly (7014039), **12.30** Tennis (5580465), **4.00** Sky Sports Centre (92453590), **4.15** Close. 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun (21544731). 1.00 Fish TV The Utimate

Fishing Show (31323921). 1.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (21531267). 2.00 Superbouts 67), 3,00 Sportraits (3472)557). 3.30 V-Max (31437489), 4.00 Athletics [25398977], 5.00 Cricket - AXA Life League Nottinghemshire vs Lancashire (26008915). 10.00 Wresting Classics (54991441). 10.30 Best of All Time Footf62230267\ 11.30 Close.

7.30 Football (45/83). 9.00 Cycling: Tour of Spain (42644), 10.00 Xtreme Sports (77267), 11.00 Motocross (39460), 11.30 Water-Sking (4489), 12.00 Saling Magazine (2499), 1.00 Golf (33847), 2.00 Cycing: Tour of Spain (51770). 4.00 Speedworld (8002). 6.00 Xtrama Sports (13083). 7.00 Bowing (53915), 8.00 Trick-shot (43151), 10.00 Fitness (52286), 11.00 dworld (78996). 12.00 Xtreme Sports (14251), 12.30 Close.

LIK Gold 7.00 Crossroads (7013118), 7.30 Neighbours (7396538). 2.55 EastEnders (4668002). 8.30 The Bill (8103354). 9.00 The Bill (8194806), 9.30 Bergerac (7717170). 10.30 The Sulivers (8123118). 11.00 Dallas (5239538). 11.55 Neighbours

(53395731). 12.25 EastEnders (5716809). 1.00 All Creatures Great and Small (4591712), 2.00 Dallas (5188248), 2.55 The Bill (8191118), 3.25 The Bill (4118354), 3.55 Bergerac (1190267). 4.55 EastEnders (8551248), **5.30** Angels (2929118), **6.00** All The Comedy Alternative: Don't Wait Do (8382441). 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative: Dads Army (2061335). 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative: Some Mothers Do Ywe 'Em (3844129), 9,000 One Foot in the Grave (8870441). 9.40 Common as Muck (82317793). 10.50 The Bill (7229170). 11.20 The BS (6609977), 11.50 Casualty (6929847), 12.50 The Cornic Strip Presents (3100126). 1.25 Live at Jongleurs (1386497). 1.55 Film: Riders of Destiny (1933) (5442039). 2.55 - 7.00 Shopping at Night (95057132).

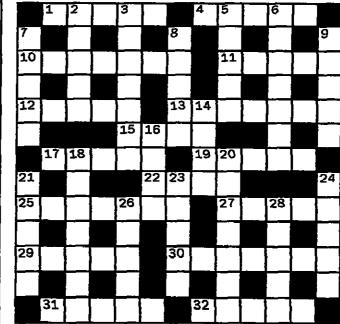
6.00 Tiny Living (3149199). 9.00 Special Bables (8341996). 9.30 Beyond Bellef: Fact or Fiction (7473422). 10.00 Jerry Springer (5777151), 10.50 Rolonda 48). 11.40 Brookside (39171460). 12.10 Jimmy's (2663063), 12.45 Rescue 911 (6156422), 1.15 Ready, Steady, Cook (4337880), **1.50** Can't Cook, Won't Cook (13657625), **2.20** Living It Up! (8768847). **3.20** Rolonda (9886064), **4.50** Tempesti (8450731), **5.00** Ready, Steady, Cook 188424B), 5.35 Cent Cook, Worlt Cook (5426151), 6:10 Jerry Springer (6962793), 7.00 Rescue 911 (9036422), 7:30 Beyond Beliet: Fact or Fiction (94518). 8.00 Mur-der Call (2860489). 9.00 Films: No One Could Protect Her (1995) (2830248), **11.00** The Sex Files (8849625), **12.00** Close.

9.00 Film: Unmissables: North by Northwest (1959). See Pick of the Day (96692809). 11.00 Films: Clash of the Titans (1981) (61296335), **1,00 Film:** The Wheeler Dealers (1963) (61299687), **3,00** (71503213), 5.00 Close

Paramount Comedy Channel 7.00 Roseame (2441), 7.20 Cosby (3809). 8.00 Grace under Fire (8488), 8.30 Spin City (7996), 9.00 Ellen (22170), 9.30 Sein-fald (21002), 10.00 Frasier (83354), 10.30 Cheers (92002), #LOO Kenny Everett (34915). 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (48267), 12.00 Late Night with David Let-terman (79584), 1.00 Seturday Night Live (64300), 2.00 Dr Katz (90213), 2.30 Soap (79720). 3.00 The Klds in the Hall (82687). 3.30 Alghtstand (93300), 4.00 Close

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3711 Wednesday 9 September



REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

4.00 Termis (6164354), 10.00 Golf Extra

N Ireland As BBC1 London except: 6.30 - 7.00 Newsine 6.30 Scotland As BBC1 London except 6.00 News 6.30 - 7.00 Reporting Scotland: Weather Wales As BBC1 London except: 6.30 .

7.00 Wales Today 11.55 Film: A Thousand Heroes 2.25 - 6.00 Joins BBC Naus 24 Anglia

As Cartton except: 12.20 Angla News and Weather (4989809), 1.00 Split Second (61693). 1.30 Home and Away (22606). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (3398354). 3.20 Anglia News and Weath er (5763644). 5.40 Shortland Street (9648977). **6.00** Home and Away (852266). **6.25** Anglia News (708070). (052289), 6.25 Anglie News (708070), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (198996), 10.40 Firm: Betman Forever (517083), 11.25 Hotywood's Greatest Sturts (879460), 12.25 Firm: Defending Your-Life (314958), 2.25 One Summer in Bronte Country (1527519), 2.55 Vanessa (2754768). 3.45 Cybernet (85861590).

4.10 Simply Wilde (67456584). 4.35 TV Nightscreen (51845010). 5.00 Coronation Central

As Cariton except: 12.20 Certral News and Weather (4989609). 12.30 ITN News; Weather (23335). 1.00 Echo Point (61693), 3.20 Central News (5763644), 5.40 Shortland Street (9648977), 6.00 Home and Away (852286), 6.25 Central ews and Weather (709070). 10.30 Central News, Weather and Travel Update (196996), 3.50 Cybernet (51324479), 4.05 Jobfinder (5780565), 5.20 Asian Eye

HTV Wales As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (620977), 12.15 HTV News (2129422). 1.00 Shortland Street (61693). 1.30 Home and Away (22806): 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (3388354): 3.20 HTV News (5763844): 5.10 Primetime Diary (9648977), **6.00** Home and Away (2286), **6.25** Wales Tonight (708070). 10.30 HTV News (196906). 10.40 Film: Betman Forever (517083). 11.25 Hollywoods Greatest Sturts (966977), 11.30 Sci-Fest (243538). 11.55 Short Story Cinerna (\$04373), 12.00 Short Story Cinema (\$159687), 12.25 Film: Defending Your Life (314958). 2-25 One Summer in Bronte Country (1527519). 2.55 Vanessa (2754788). 3.45 Cybernet (85861590). 4.10 Simply Wilde (67456584), 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (51845010), 5.00 Coronation

Street (7574). **HTV West** As HTV Wales except: 5.10 Kidstuff (9648977), 6.25 HTV West Weather (460354), 6.30 The West Tonight (441). 11.30 Renegade (830606). Meridian

As Carlton excepts 100 Shoriland Street (\$1693), 1.30 Home and Away (22606), 2.00 Jerry Springer (3398354), 5.37 Three Minutes - Freescreen (595489). 6.00 Meridian Toright (489). 6.30 Rummage (441). 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (196996), 11.30 Renegade (830606), 12.25 Firm: Defending Your Life (814958), 2.25 One Summer in Bronte Country (1527519), 2.55 Vanessa

12754768), 3,45 Cybernet (85861590), 4.10 Simply Wilde (67456584). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (51845010). 5.00 Freescreen

Westcountry
As Cariton except: 12.27 Junitations (4997826). 1.00 Emmerdale (81993). 6.00 Westcountry Live (31354). 10.40 Film: Batman Forever (517083), 11.25 Tropical Heat (879460), 12.25 Film: Deending Your Life (314958). 2.25 One Summer in Bronte Country (1527519). 2.55 Vanessa (2754768), 3.45 Cybernet (85861590). 4.10 Simply Wilds (67456584). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (51845010), 5.00 Coronation Street (75774).

Yorkshire As Cariton except: 12-20 Calendar News and Weather (4998557), 12.25 Johank (4997826), 1.00 Home and Away (81143731). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (3731199). 240 Emmardale (4810441). 3.20 Calendar News (5763644), 5.40 News; Weather (700286). 5.55 Calendar (413977), 6.30 Tonight (441), 10.40 Film: Batman Forever (517083), 11.25 Doorns-

day; What Can We Do? (602712), 4.20 Jobfinder (8959519). Tyne Tees As Yorkshire except: 5.55 North

East Weather (575625), 6.00 North East S4C As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Sud-

denly Susan (40217165), 12.30 Sesame

Street (94192557), 1.00 Slot Meithrin: Ty Chwith a Smot y Ci (84062002), 1.30 Collectors' Lot (10360151), 1.55 - 4.00 Channel 4 Racing from Doncester (61157644). 4.30 Ricki Lake (68170793), 5.00 5Pump: Nics Nain (68491606). 5.15 5Pump: Ffeil (64772880), 5.30 Countdown (68194373). 6,00 Nawyddion 6 48959335). **6:10** Heno (89015286). **7:00** Pobol y Owm (15859625), 7.25 Fiermic (37588625), 8.00 Geir am Aur (39674422) 8.30 Newyddion (39693557). 9.00 Armistead Maurinis More Tales of the City (24377731): 10.00 Brookside (35458557). 10.35 Ally McBeel (15070712). 11.30 X-Retted Rickl (55796915). 12:10 Under the Moon (97448672). 4.00 Close.

ACROSS Go bad (5)

Of eastern continent (5) 10 Firm (7) 11 Glint (5) 12 Most insignificant (5) 13 Marsh gas (7) 15 Holly (4)

17 Pilgrimage centre (5) 19 Drive (5) 22 Pol (4) Sound measure (7)

27 Passage in church (5) 29 Fruit, or half of one? (5) 30 Getting on (7) 31 Show feelings (5) 32 Multiply (5)

Play (5) Vision (5) Transparent film (7) Religious song (5) Jingle (5) Glowing coal (5) 14 Way out (4) 16 Unconvincing (4) 18 Cry out (7) 20 Take a winding course (7) 21 Saying (5) 23 Change (5) 24 Gemstone (5) 26 French scaport (5) 28 Attend to customer (5)

DOWN

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 5 Purse, 8 Analysed (Personalised), 9 Aspie, 10 Collapse, 11 Berth, 14 Gas, 16 Engma, 17 Abduct, 18 Pad, 20 Magie, 23 Columbe, 25 Sepia, 26 Sr. Lanka, 27 Banns, DOWN: 1 Watch, 2 Table, 3 Bylaw, 4 Geisha, 6 Unsteady, 7 Sciatica, 12 In camera, 13 Ignation, 14 Gap, 15 Sad, 19 Aboard, 21 Folly, 2 Signs, 23 Medal.

TELEVISION REVIEW **JASPER** REES

Children's BBC: King Greenfingers (R) (S) (5777847). 3.30 Playdays (R) (S) (7879286). 3.50 ChuckleVision (R) (S) (7869422). 4.10 Gadget Boy (R) (S) (8390083).

Children's BBC; The Wild House (R) (S) (T) (3445083), **5.00** Newsround (S) (T) (8656335), **5.10** Blue Peter (S) (T) (6899335).

5.35 Neighbours (S) (T) (462489).

5.00 News; Weather (1) (793).

E Newsroom South East. (1) (373).

The X-Greatures. The Loch Ness monster: is it real, or just another myth perpetuated by documentary makers in search of a subject? (S) (T) (7335).

Tomorrow's World. Pioneering spinal surgery, and an invention to reduce queues at theme parks (5) (T) (557).

?00 The National Lottery Dreamworld. Another desperate attempt to fill the slot no one watches except for the last two minutes (S) (T) (518).

The Vicar of Dibley. Geraldine decides that Alice and Hugo ought to kies. Much improved rural sitcom (R) (S) (T) (214199).

BIDIES Smith and Jones. New series from the deepen muggers (S) (T) (282002) See Camedy of the Day, below 10.30

Match of the Day. I between Liverpool and

ecisions

S THIM A Thousand Heroes (LUS). Real-life TV movie that looks re the Airport suite. When the engines authorities forget about those on bo

Joins BBC News 24 (67803768) To 6am

COMEDY OF THE DAY

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BBC1

10,30

day's the Day (S) (T) (422)

9.00 Ster Trek; The Next Generation. An explosion aboard the *Enterprise* spatks whoh-hunt for Kingons (R): (S) (T) (876422).

6.4 8 **Sliders.** The parallel world tra fire (S) (T) (182880).

7,30 Private Investigations. Karen Stacey tries to find out who is accountable for the death of her brother, killed by a chemical spillage in a sewer (S) (T) (199).

University Challenge. Come on Ballot You're going to have to do better than that if you're going to beat Durham (8) (T) (4825).

8,00

8.30 Two Fat Ladies. Jennifer and Claritesa cock up rerebit souffis, pork with clams and chocolete bruide for the Weish Pony Club (S) (T) (8460)

d'a Army*. (R) (T) (3354).

Close Up. Colleagues and friends of the TV playwright Dennis Potter dissect the extent to which he could tall reality from fantasy. Contributions from Gina Beilman, Roy Hudd, Kenith Trodd and Jon Amiel (S) (33:151).

Jeremy Paxman (T) (524373).

Grace under Fire. Wry single-mom sitcorretuses Quentin a driving licence (S) (169880). om Grace

BBC2

5 Designing a L111 (7) (543526)
Telejubbles (S) (1668422), 7.25
(1667557), 7.50 Really Wild Sin
(1687557), 7.50 Really Wild Sin
(1687557), 7.50 Really Wild Sin
(1687557), 7.50 Really Wild Sin
(17875696), 8.45 Harry
(S) (T) (880170), 9.40 Hawkeyy
(S) (T) (8768083), 10.00 Tele 8

Ingrid berymmer than Gloomy shows the first BBC: 12.30 Working Lunch (36809), 1.00 Children's BBC: 12.30 Working Lunch (36809), 1.10 11111 Flying Johns (R) (67000783), 1.10 11111 Flying Johns Johns (R) (67000783), 1.10 11111 Flying Tigers (David Miller 1842 US). Flying aces take time for it romance (62861712), 2.45 News; Local News; Weather It romance (62861712), 2.45 N ITIME Goodbye Again (Anatole Litvak ingrid Bergman in an eternal triangle with Yvand Anthony Perkina, Gloomy incest tosh (3)

hather (T) (421267).

900

Coronation Street. The guilt-ridden Steve is sturned by Fione. The police turn their attention to Curly (7) (625).

Who Wan Millionaire? (S) (T) (1151).

8.30 8.30 Looking like Diana. Diverting little documentary about what has happened to all the Diana lookalikes recently (1) (8828).

ather (T) (98151).

10.30 London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East. (T) (196896).

(528064). man Forever, Concludes (S) (T)

eller (76712).

1971 US), Cle Julie Christie **McCabe and Mrs Miller** (Robert Altman lassic western starring Warren Beatty and e (97822213). See *Film of the Day*, below

mer in Bronté Country (†) (9735836), sea (R) (S) (†) (1888403), 3.50 Cybernet (S) 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (8959519), **5.30** ITN ws (38126), To 8am

9.00

GMTV (1138 This Morning (4989809).

19489). **9,25** Vanessa (S) (T) (6766118). **10.15** Ig (T) (84359809). **12.20** Your Shout

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (53688). 9.00 Bewitched (R) (T) (15828).

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• ITV: Wizadora (S) (5753267), 3.35 The (S) (4188880), 3.45 The Animal Shelf (S) 5.00 Rupert (R) (8815199, 4.25 py Ponies (S) (T) (8878628), 4.40 Mad for it (S), 5.40 Home and Away (S) (T) (9848877).

11.00 Auetralia Wild (R) (S) (T) (8286). 11.30 Moving People (R) (S) (T) (8915). 12.00 Sesame Street (85064). 12.30 I Dream of Jeannie (21977). 1.00 Watercolour Challenge (83815). 1.30 Collectors' Lot (97222286). 1.56 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster (S) (81585915). 4.00 Fifteen to One – the Big Winners (S) (T) (354). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3439422). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (8998480).

9.30 IIIM Pin Up Girl (H Bruce Humberstone 1944 US). Betty Grable straps on her shoes to cheer up the forces. An unlikely plot in which a dull little typist visits a USO carteen in Washington, gives the boys a song and is instantly shot to stardom. Could almost be anvio-plo, really (63996).

00 5 News and Sport (S) (8708170), 7.00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (1786844), 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (5761480), 7.35 What a Mess (1838731), 8.00 Havakazoo (S) (8950248), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (8982847), 9.00 HouseBusters (R) (678218), 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (8619286), 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (7642712), 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (4714915), 11.10 Lezza (S) (9138539), 12.00 S News at Noon (S) (T) (895335), 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (2262809), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (1797915), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2254880), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (222839), 2.30 Open House with Gloria Hurniford (S) (3433354).

night. And weather (T) (489).

London Bridge. Ravi finally leaves Meg as Sam reflects on her night with Llam (S) (441).

6.25 Suddenly Susan. Brooke Shields attends a fund-raiser (S) (T) (931267):

6.50 Fresh Pop. Bands introduce their own videos. Billy Crawford performs "Urgently in Love" (538489).

Channel 4 News; Weather. Including headines at 7.30pm (5) (T) (636286).

7,00

6.00 Caroline in the City. Annie thinks the taxman fancies har (S) (T) (850828).

8

100 Per Cent (S) (4327441).

5.30 Pet Rescue. An injured cygnet poses a problem (S) (T) (118).

5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show. People searching for their birth parents (9203460).

ITIM Time without Pity (Joseph Losey 1957 US). Depressing but rather good drama in which dying alcoholic Michael Redgrave comes to to discover that his son is sitting on Death Row (2236557).

le. Tara hunts for Biff. Kim and Steve ir criminal future (9) (⊤) (5731).

7.00

8.00 Brookside. Oile and Eleanor are released without charge. Jacqui continues with the longest labour in history (T) (9793).

6.30 in the Dark. Weld comedy gameshow with Junior Simpson (5) (7) (7174 480).

7.50 Algeria Dally. (1) (829538).

Munimy's 180y. Documentary about a variety of young men and their relationships with their mothers (T) (1625).

00.00 (S) (T) (55083).

10.55 Cybili. Cybili gets all nostalgic about her first boyfriend (S) (T) (797444).

11.20Compromising Situations More soft porn for the pre-bed slot (9371422).

11.55 Major League Baseball (S) (27979606).

4.40 Madman of the People Sitcom (37039687), **5.05** Throb. (88515316), **5.30 - 6.00** 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (4224749).

10.40 Not the Jack Docherty Show. Melinda Messenger stands in for Jack Docherty on the late-night celebrity chat and comedy show (S) (78/3170).

11.25 Jo Willey (130118). 12:10 Under the Moon. Long-drawn-out sporting chat with Danny Kelly, Lisa Rogers and guests Neil Ruddock and Richle Woodhall (53467687).

400 Trackside (R) (7828294). 4.35 Gameemaster (R) (S) (T) (51843652). 5.00 Transworld Sport (R) (1135584). 5.55 Sesame Street (R) (S) (1120213). To 7am

ALLY MCBEAL (10pm C4, right) It's hard to believe everyone in the country basn't become hooked on Aligithough a number of people timed out after the first curather slow-building episodes. It has now fully found and is completely mesmeric, and not just for a female that

| McBeal,

| couple of

| its feet

SHITH AND JONES (10:10pm BBC1, night) Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones are the solicitors and accountants of television comedy: they have never been particularly fashionable or especially over-exposed, but have had good, dependable careers spanning the past 20 years, supplemented with a bit of mild advertising, and the comfortable public appetite for their work doesn't seem to be fading. This, believe it or not, is their 11th BBC series, and it's much the same as

SITCOM OF THE DAY

ocially th the vice. vicasies artist.





FILM OF THE DAY

MCCABE AND MRS MILLER (12.30am iTV) Okay so Sciman Forever is the big-budget premiere of the evening, but if you are looking for solid writing, good acting and stunning cinematography, this is where to turn. This is a orilliant example of the western from that mid-'Nam period when large tranches of the artistic community were beginning to question the validity of the American Way. Warren Seatly (right) plays a rather feeble Midwestern settler and small-time crook who transforms a grotly little mining town with the help of heartless tart Julie Christie. It all ends in



TELEVISION GUIDE BY SERENA MACK-15Y LATE NIGHT CLARKSON.

Tonight at 11.30pm. Extreme Machines,

UK HORIZONS

6.30 Family Affairs. Maddox is evasive about his lamby background, but Mel does not see the warning signs. Holly gets jestious when Kim arranges to meet Susic. Pets becomes power-crazy (S) (T) (4318783).

7.00 5 News, including First on Five. National and international news with Kirsty Young (9) (T) (862.9575)

7.30 Where the Bison Roam. Eagles and Ospreys struggle to raise the next generation along the same stretch of Borsal take (S) (T) (4314977).

Top 20 (8) (2324183)